

GOAL!

WEEKLY

Season 2: Issue 27

Monday 14 Aug 06: \$3

Supporting all colours and reporting in black and white.



Victory Shines In Pre-Season Cup

Reviews and Details
Inside

From Russia With Love!

Young Matilda
Amy Jackson
Flies The
Victorian flag in the
World Cup Page 21



GET YOUR SOUVENIR PRESTON LIONS TEAM POSTER INSIDE!

VODAFONE CUP LATEST RESULTS

Kingston 1 - 2 Lions

Eagles 1 - 1 Cannons

Pines 0 - 2 Magic

Blues 2 - 1 Royals

Gully 1 - 2 Georgies

Bergers 1 - 0 Knights

*Zebras v South Playing tonight

PHEW!

MUSCAT THROWS
GEORGIES A LIFELINE
AS SURVIVAL IN
VODAFONE CUP HOTS UP



Photo by Daniel Flis



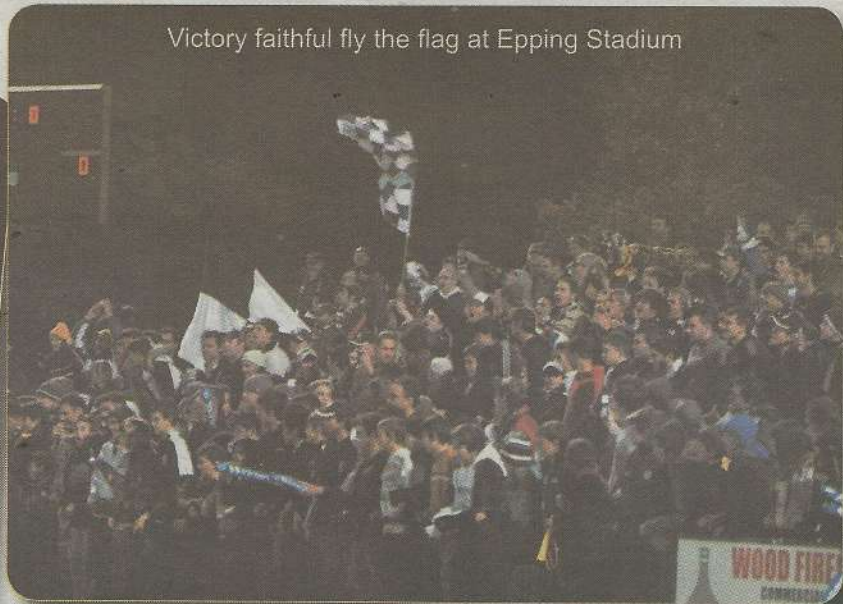
2006/2007 A-League Pre-Season Cup



Alessandro watches on as big Sas wins the aerial battle



Victory faithful fly the flag at Epping Stadium



Kevin Muscat does away with the danger and shows why he's back in the Socceroo squad



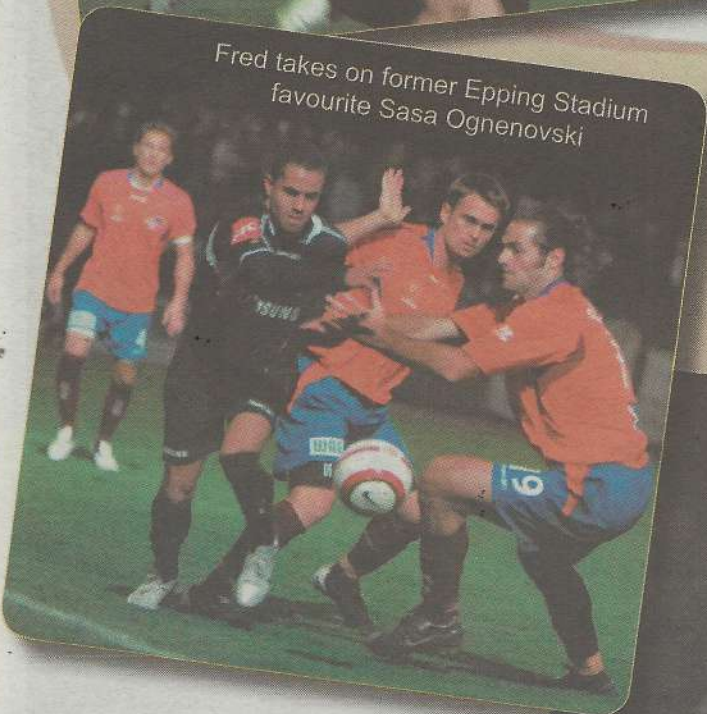
Victory wins 4-2 on penalties after 0-0 AET



Victory's Rodrigo Vargas led the backline in subline fashion



Fred takes on former Epping Stadium favourite Sasa Ogrenovski



Victory's Daniel Allsopp flies high over the Roar's Sasa Ogrenovski



Old coach Miron Bleiberg



Victory striker Archie Thompson hit the mark with his spot-kick to help defeat the visiting Roar after scores were locked at 0-0 after 120 mins



Queensland's Hyuk-Su Seo came up against a resolute Melbourne defence on Friday night



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Victory Makes Roar Pay The Penalty



MVFC



QLD Roar

Melbourne wins 4-2 on a penalties

Melbourne Victory has advanced to the pre-season cup's fifth place playoff after a hard-fought 4-2 penalty shootout victory over Queensland Roar at Epping Stadium on Friday night.

With the scores locked at 0-0 after 120 minutes of play, Victory 'keeper Michael Theoklitos, in only his second outing of the tournament, proved to be the match-winner, making stunning saves from Roar captain Chad Gibson and Steve Fitzsimmons, reviving memories of his shootout heroics for Bulleen in the 2004 VPL decider.

Repaying Ernie Merrick's faith in him, Rodrigo Vargas performed in sublime fashion as he led the back line, rarely seeming troubled against the vastly more experienced opposition, while Sasa Ogenovski played admirably on his return to Epping Stadium, in a night where the opposing defences stood steadfast and defiant.

Dominating the games early stages, Alessandro made Queensland hearts flutter after seven minutes as his strike from the edge of the area flew perilously wide of Liam Reddy's goal.

And when a stunning Simon Storey strike cannoned off the crossbar in the best chance of the match in the 18th minute, it looked as if the Victory would run away with the match.

But the Roar soon crowded the midfield, dealing with Melbourne's predictable yet frequent forward movements with relative ease.

While the media had focused primarily on the exploits of Melbourne's much-vaunted Brazilians in the season's lead up, it was new recruit Grant Brebner who proved most influential, marshalling the midfield from deep.

A product of Manchester United's youth academy, the ex-Dundee United player's hard nosed approach and probing passing caused Queensland's rearguard numerous problems, with the star seeming to be Melbourne's most likely attacking threat.

Storey, used sporadically by Ernie Merrick last season, was also among Victory's best early, combining well with forwards Daniel Allsopp and Archie Thompson.

With the half entering its dying stages, Queensland began to take control of the game, as diminutive midfielder Massimo Murodcca started to dictate play.

Hyuk-Su Seo's wide range of passing provided former Celtic forward Simon Lynch plenty of possession, but against a resolute Melbourne defence, Lynch was stifled of space and opportunity while teammate Ante Milicic looked lost and struggled for pace.

Failing to translate its possession dominance to the scoreboard, Roar was consigned to long-range efforts at goal with Matt McKay and Seo providing the most

noteworthy attempts.

Substituted on following a lacklustre performance by former Guarini forward Fred, Kristian Sarkies' injection into the Melbourne attack early in the second half ignited a late renaissance.

The Socceroo squad member's entry also coincided with an end to Melbourne's constant attempts to penetrate Miron Bieberg's defence with the monotonous long ball.

Beginning to exploit the Roar down the wings, Alessandro's under-utilised dribbling ability came to the fore in the second stanza, as his incisive and flashy runs on the flank caused headaches for Andrew Packer and Ben Griffin.

Playing with the sole attacker up front, Queensland seemed decidedly uninspiring throughout the second period as Socceroo squad member Matt McKay failed to impress.

However, forced into using a makeshift midfield anchored by Ogenovski following the substitutions of Murodcca and Daniel Vidovic, Queensland's lack of creative flair was justifiable.

Bleiberg later acknowledged the gaff, stating that he had not realised the game would enter extra time if the scores were locked after 90 minutes.

"I was very surprised to see a pre-season game go to extra time. I don't know if you noticed, but I made all my subs in the second half. All of a sudden it was



Shootout hero Michael Theoklitos catches Kristian Sarkies as Kevin Muscat and Simon Storey join the celebrations

extra time and I was extremely surprised," said Bleiberg.

Mid-way through the half, a Sarkies free kick was nodded just wide by a rather subdued Archie Thompson, before Rodrigo Vargas headed high in the final chance of normal time.

With scoring chances proving to be a rare commodity, Muscat found an opening on the edge of the area, only to push his shot wide in the only chance of extra time, before Theoklitos saved the day with a sterling 'keeping display in a rather hollow penalty shootout. Victory coach Ernie Merrick lauded his team's defensive performance after the match, in what was Victory's first clean sheet of the A-League Pre-Season Cup.

Merrick said, "It was a very good effort by the boys. We attacked today but they played a very defensive game. It was hard to create opportunities, but our backline gave away nothing.

"The boys, organisation-wise, were very solid. Roddy had them well organised, and the two centre backs in front of Roddy did a great job. Last year, those are the sorts of games we'd throw away in the last five or ten minutes," he said.

By Simon Chiarelli
Photos by Daniel Flis

MVFC

Michael Theoklitos-8

Single-handedly earned Melbourne victory

Kevin Muscat-6

Persisted through the midfield in solid display

Daniel Piorkowski-7

Assured performance by the young centre-half

Rodrigo Vargas-8

Marshalled the defence in authoritative fashion

Adrian Leijer-7

Rarely troubled by vastly more experienced opponents

Grant Brebner-8

Brilliant first half but tapered away late

Simon Storey-7

Proved a constant attacking threat down the right flank

Alessandro-7

Starred when given the opportunity on the left

Fred-6

Showed glimpses of brilliance but marked out of game

Daniel Allsopp-6

Worked tirelessly for little reward

Archie Thompson-7

Looked threatening at times but seemed to lack fitness

Subs

Vince Lia-6

Had little time to settle or impress

Kristian Sarkies-7

His introduction changed tide of match

Adrian Caceres-6

Impressed with his style and finesse in extra time

QLD Roar

Liam Reddy-6

Assertive performance with little to do

Andrew Packer-6

Performed admirably as he ran all night

Remo Buess-7

Elegantly dominated left side until Caceres' introduction

Chad Gibson-7

Organised defence in excellent fashion

Sasa Ogenovski-8

Dominated aerial contests throughout match

Josh McCloughan-7

Provided stern defensive support and ventured forward on occasion

Massimo Murodcca-7

Hard-working performance from diminutive midfielder

Hyuk-Su Seo-8

Dictated tempo of contest from deep

Daniel Vidovic-6

Given little opportunity to shine up front

Simon Lynch-6

Struggled to penetrate Melbourne's unyielding defence

Ante Milicic-5

Seemed to lack fitness and failed to impose himself

Subs

Ben Griffin-6

Managed to creditably deal with Alessandro at right back

Matt McKay-6

Suffered the after effects of strenuous Socceroos camp and disappointed

Steve Fitzsimmons-7

Added another dimension to the Roar with runs down right flank

Tom Willis-6

Rarely troubled until penalty shootout

Monday 14 August



VODAFONE CUP

DETAILS



ROUND 24 SCOREBOARD

RICHMOND EAGLES 1 - 1 OAKLEIGH CANNONS
Friday 11th August Kevin Bartlett Reserve Crowd: 500

Goals: J.Nilo (OC) 23rd, J.Baskerville (RE) 83rd.
Yellow cards: G.Goutzioulis (OC) 14th, R.Kumar (OC) 42nd,
J.Baskerville (RE) 47th, S.Webster (OC) 82nd.
Red cards: None.

Eagles: N.Crossley, S.Webster, S.Burton, J.Baskerville,
S.McCluskey, N.Bahnsen, S.Sivic (B.Beni 69th), D.Visevic,
F.O'Colmain (J.Robinson 61st), G.Hockless, V.Korcarevski
(X.Sulemani 69th).

Cannons: S.Webster, F.Rosman, A.Ewin, R.Kumar, C.Boutsianis,
A.Pellikan, J.Nilo, E.Masi (V.Toma 68th), S.Webster, S.Poutakidis,
G.Goutzioulis (B.Damianos 74th).

FRANKSTON PINES 0 - 2 ALTONA MAGIC
Saturday 12th August Monterey Reserve Crowd: 500

Goals: T.Razov (AM) 22nd, S.Becvinovski (AM) 57th.
Yellow cards: M.Anderson (FP) 71st.
Red cards: None.

Pines: K.McIvor, J.Cumming, M.Anderson, T.Malcolm (C.Stewart
57th), D.Craig (N.D'angelo 70th), B.Oucin, C.Jones, B.Cullen
(D.D'angelo 75th), N.Waite, C.Leopold, C.Metcalf.

Magic: B.Jevdevic, S.Mrkela, L.Osman, D.Mladenovic, K.Delev,
S.Becvinovski, A.Opazo, I.Arsovski (I.Razov 62nd), S.Zilic
(A.Sherifovski 66th), T.Razov, D.Vasilevski.

FAWKNER/WHITTLESEA 2 - 1 ESSENDON ROYALS
Saturday 12th August CB Smith Reserve Crowd: 300

Goals: J.Markovski (FW) 4th, M.Tsiorlas (FW) 6th, D.Pilic (ER)
27th.
Yellow cards: C.Miles (ER) 13th, J.Youssef (ER) 41st, M.Bosevski
(FW) 63rd, E.Awad (FW) 81st.
Red cards: None.

Blues: S.Tilovski, J.Angelovski, E.Awad, P.Dimovski, M.Bosevski,
M.Tsiorlas, J.Siljonovski, T.Sterjovski, D.Madarovski, G.Lombardo,
J.Markovski (M.Packovski 68th)

Royals: M.Chang, V.Pilitto (Mladenovski 72nd), N.Thomas,
S.Pir, N.Schwal, J.Youssef, F.Catalano, D.Pilic, M.Catalano,
M.Medjedovic, H.Fa'arodo.

KINGSTON CITY 1 - 2 PRESTON LIONS
Sunday 13th August The Grange Reserve Crowd: N/A

Goals: J.Sapasovski (PL) 48th, M.Gasparis (PL) 55th, M.Curcija
(KC) 58th.
Yellow cards: L.Anastasiou (KC) 29th, P.Siveski (PL) 37th, Y.Said
(PL) 71st, E.Karahan (PL) 83rd.
Red cards: None.

Kingston: D.Zilic, C.Anthopoulos, S.Iosifidis, C.Konstans,
J.Latinopoulos, M.Stergiopoulos, P.Koutsopoulos (J.Spiteri 74th),
N.Stamatiou (X.Xhang 70th), D.Tsiaras (A.Chiapetta 73rd), J.Di
lorio, M.Curcija.

Lions: S.Odzemir, L.Anastasiou, N.Lazarevski (G.Petrovski 78th),
M.Gasparis, B.Gorgioski (S.Masalkovski 79th), S.Pace, P.Siveski,
E.Karahan, J.Sapasovski, Z.Younan, Y.Said.

GREEN GULLY 1 - 2 SUNSHINE GEORGIES
Sunday 13th August Green Gully Reserve Crowd: 1500

Goals: E.Muscat (SG) 42nd & 75th, P.Hader 77th.
Yellow cards: J.Nikolic (GG) 46th, A.Vargas (GG) 77th.
Red cards: Z.Markovski (GG) 59th.

Gully: A.Loncaric, P.Riccobene, D.Fak, Z.Markovski, B.Vassallo
(A.Marsh 56th), J.Nikolic, D.Nastevski, A.Vargas, L.Lapsansky,
R.Cardozo (P.Hader 75th), S.Oksuz (M.Sanders 56th).

Georgies: M.John, I.Erdogan, C.Azzopardi, D.Rocco, D.Delic
(F.Alghainly 17th), V.Trpceviski (R.Vapol 75th), A.Tsirtsakis,
M.Draycott, E.Muscat, B.Gilmour, F.Richards.

HEIDELBERG UNITED 1 - 0 MELBOURNE KNIGHTS
Sunday 13th August Olympic Village Crowd: 1500

Goals: J.Tricarico (HU) 17th
Yellow cards: C.Elvin (MK) 40th, Y.Yusef (HU) 76th, G.Talevski
(MK) 90th.
Red cards: None

Bergers: L.Aceviski, E.Vassiliadis, P.Roberts (R.Liparotti 45th),
D.Jones, S.Petrovic, S.Romein, A.Gjuni (L.Tsourmerkis 61st),
J.Drossos, N.Sabljak, J.Tricarico (Y.Yusef 17th), A.Vlahos.

Knights: A.Cagalj, A.Neven, G.Talevski, D.Matkovic, C.Elvin,
A.Zilic, A.Muzaferovic, N.Caldwell (R.Filipovic 87th), L.Cannell,
R.Casey, B.Chesson (M.Dugandzic HT).

PLAYING TONIGHT

BULLEEN ZEBRAS - SOUTH MELBOURNE
Monday 14th August Veneto Social Club Crowd:

Goals:

Yellow cards:

Red cards:

VODAFONE CUP TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Oakleigh Cannons	24	16	6	2	46	22	54
Heidelberg Utd	24	12	5	7	43	33	41
Altona Magic	24	11	7	6	28	20	40
South Melbourne	23	11	5	7	39	24	38
Kingston City	24	10	5	9	34	34	35
Preston Lions	24	9	7	8	41	41	34
Richmond Eagles	24	8	8	8	37	36	32
Green Gully	24	8	7	9	40	38	31
Bulleen Zebras	23	8	5	10	25	32	29
Fawkner-Whittlesea	24	9	1	14	37	47	28
Sunshine Georgies	24	7	6	11	29	35	27
Melbourne Knights	24	7	6	11	28	37	27
Essendon Royals	24	6	6	12	24	34	24
Frankston Pines	24	6	4	14	21	39	22



Sunshine Georgies player Dusko Delic is stretchered off during the Derby battle between Green Gully and Sunshine Georgies Photo by Daniel Flis

VODAFONE CUP UNDER-21s

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Green Gully Cavaliers SC	23	15	4	4	51	21	49
Richmond SC	24	13	4	7	50	36	43
Preston Lions SC	22	13	3	6	42	34	42
South Melbourne FC	22	11	4	7	46	35	37
Fawkner-Whittlesea SC	21	10	6	5	40	25	36
Oakleigh Cannons SC	24	10	6	8	51	38	36
Sunshine Georgies SC	22	10	4	8	54	31	34
Heidelberg United SC	21	9	5	7	33	32	32
Bulleen Zebras SC	20	9	3	8	29	31	30
Essendon Royals SC	22	8	4	10	27	37	28
Altona Magic SC	24	8	1	15	37	55	25
Melbourne Knights SC	23	7	1	15	27	53	22
Frankston Pines SC	23	7	0	16	37	57	21
Kingston City SC	23	3	3	17	25	64	12

Richmond 2
Oakleigh Cannons 6,

Frankston Pines 5
Altona Magic 1,

Kingston City 2
Preston Lions 5,

Fawkner-Whittlesea 3
Essendon Royals 0,

Green Gully Cavaliers
Sunshine Georgies ,

Heidelberg United
Melbourne Knights ,

Bulleen Zebras
South Melbourne

VODAFONE CUP ROUND 25

OAKLEIGH CANNONS

BULLEEN ZEBRAS

Friday 18th August
Jack Edwards Reserve,
Oakleigh Mel: 69 H9
KO 8.15pm

ALTONA MAGIC

GREEN GULLY CAVALIERS

Saturday 19th August
Paisley Park Reserve,
Altona Mel: 55 C5
KO 5.30pm

PRESTON LIONS

RICHMOND EAGLES

Sunday 20th August
BT Connor Reserve
Preston Mel: 18 B2
KO 3pm

SUNSHINE GEORGIES

HEIDELBERG UNITED

Sunday 20th August
Chaplin Reserve,
Sunshine Mel: 26 G12
KO 3pm

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS

FAWKNER/WHITTLESEA

Sunday 20th August
Knights Stadium,
Sunshine Mel: 27 A6
KO 3pm

SOUTH MELBOURNE

FRANKSTON PINES

Sunday 20th August
Bob Jane Stadium,
Albert Park Mel: 2K F6
KO 6pm

ESSENDON ROYALS

KINGSTON CITY

Monday 21st August
Veneto Social Club,
Bulleen Mel: 32 D9
KO 8.15pm

ROUND 26 - Final Round

Preston Lions v Essendon Royals

Kingston City v Melbourne Knights

Fawkner-Whittlesea v Sunshine Georgies

Heidelberg United v Altona Magic

Green Gully Cavaliers v South Melbourne

Frankston Pines v Oakleigh Cannons

Richmond v Bulleen Zebras

LEADING GOALSCORERS

Michael Curcija
Kingston City FC 16

Sash Becvinovski
Altona Magic FC 14

James Robinson
Richmond Eagles FC 12

Esala Masi
Oakleigh Cannons FC 12

Anthony Magnacca
Preston Lions 11



VODAFONE CUP

Round 24


BERGERS INTO SECOND AS JUGGERNAUT CONTINUES



PROUD KNIGHTS PREPARE FOR DESPERATE TIMES

Heidelberg Utd 1 - 0 Melbourne Knights



Heidelberg United has jumped into second place in the Vodafone Cup standings after defeating the Melbourne Knights by 1-0 at Olympic Village last night.

With not a lot to gain in the league and omissions from both sides the clash between two of Melbourne's most successful football clubs was always going to be an interesting one, but more-so an opportunity for both coaches to test some fringe players. The game started with Heidelberg

dominating possession and sending long testing balls into the Knights defence. The Heidelberg forwards always looked more determined to get to the ball and the inexperience of the Knights team showed as they gave space to a Heidelberg midfield that was all too willing to play the ball from side to side, utilizing their wingbacks and probing for openings. Jim Drossos and Joe Tricarico especially exposed the weaknesses in the midfield of the Knights and Tricarico was rewarded with his efforts with a free header from one of many Heidelberg corners which he slammed under the keeper in the 17th Minute.

Tricarico then celebrated by immediately leaving the ground (substituted for Yusuf Yusuf) as he had aggravated an injury which he had carried into the game.

The Knights were lucky not to go further down as the first half progressed due to some great wide play and attacking moves from Heidelberg and lone Knights striker Nathan Caldwell looked frustrated for supply as the Knights could only shoot from distance due to some close man-man-

agement by the solid Heidelberg defence and hard working and determined midfield.

The second half started with a very visible improvement in attitude by the Knights who came out and matched the well-organized Bergers with some great physical play and a new-found determination to close down the midfield. Goran Talevski on the right hand side engineered several attacks for the Knights and produced the strike and play of the night with a 30 meter thunderbolt which dipped and swerved but was spectacularly saved by a fully outstretched Heidelberg Keeper Lou Acevski, who was also a standout in the Heidelberg Goal. Sash Petrovic looked to have Heidelberg's second in the dying stages of the second half but was thwarted with a desperate last gasp challenge by the Knights defence.

There was lack of experience at times displayed by both teams but Heidelberg showed that you can win if you are simply more organized, and there seems plenty of hope for the future with both teams bleeding some more than capable young fringe players—

By Peter van den Berg
Photos by Daniel Flis

What the Coaches Said...

Con Pappas
Coach, South Melbourne:

It was a hard fought game...we didn't play very well. Our momentum wasn't there like it was in other weeks and we didn't play our normal flowing game, but the Melbourne Knights, to their credit put pressure on us, but we're just happy to come away with the three points. Overall it wasn't the best of games from either side.

Jo Spoljar
Coach, Melbourne Knights:

The game was pretty even and they scored from a set piece early on. We changed the formation later on and I don't think they had a shot on goal in the second half and that speaks for itself. Obviously it's very difficult times for the Knights and we just have to take it one game at a time. There are still two games left and we'll have to make decisions which are best for the club.



Man of the Match
Jim Drossos
(Berger)

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VODAFONE CUP

Round 24



JONESY LEADS BY EXAMPLE AS BLUES BREATHE AGAIN

ROYALS FACE UNCERTAIN FUTURE AS RELEGATION LOOMS



Fawkner-Whittlesea 2 - 1 Essendon Royals



The Fawkner-Whittlesea Blues have arisen from their slumber and in turn took all the points from the Essendon Royals in yesterday's crucial Round 24 match. First half goals from player/coach John Markovski and Mark Tsiolas overcame the penalty spot reply conjured up when David Pilic sent the Blues keeper the wrong way.

Despite losing the Royals should not be disappointed with the way they played. The Catalano contingent lead forcefully in the midfield who pulled the strings for the Royals and dictated many of the visitor's failed attacks. However as like many of Essendon's performances this season they failed to make the most of their chances that they created, highlighting their drastic shortage of fire-power upfront.

The first goal came after the referee decided that there was a pass back by the Royals defender, from the sideline it was a very hard decision for the official to make seeing that there were around 10 players in the six yard box trying to either smash the ball in to the back of the net while the other half was

trying to clear the ball into the stands. The public was left wondering how the referee came to the decision of free kick from just four yards out. I guess it is something he will know but the ref's decision is final and the game continued. From the ensuing free kick player coach Markovski got onto it and hammered his shot into the back of

the Royals net.

Three minutes later Mark Tsiolas extended the Blues' lead with a more conventional goal. That would eventually seal the fate of the visiting Royals.

As the game progressed towards the midway point, the Royals started to come back into the game with Mile Medjovic, Henry Fa' Arado and the Catalano brothers stepping it up a gear and began causing problems all over the ground.

The lead was finally cut short when the Royals got a goal on the 28th minute after the referee granted Joseph Yousef a penalty for being brought down in the box. Pilic stepped up and made no mistake and this seemed to be just the lift the visitors were looking for as just before the main break.

Unfortunately the second half did not live up to high standards that both sides set in the opening stanza and there were just three saves that either keeper was forced to make. The half ended up being a scrappy affair in which neither side took control off and in the end both sets of supporters were happy to hear the final whistle. The result alleviates some of the pressure that Markovski has had to deal with lately, while the Royals are hovering over the danger zone and if they do not produce wins in their next two matches they could find themselves in State League One.

By Paul Jefferies
Photos by Daniel Flis

What the Coaches Said...

John Markovski
Coach, Fawkner-Whittlesea:

I'm happy. It was a scrappy game for most of the 90 mins. We scored a couple of quick goals and they got one back through a penalty. The boys did really well and fought it out for the entire 94 mins. Every game is going to be vital for every team at the moment, so I'm just happy the boys came out and got back on the winning trail.

David Winton
Coach, Essendon Royals:

It was the normal story for us, plenty of opportunities and didn't take them. I've never said this in my life, but the refereeing was atrocious. The first goal he's given as a backpass when the intent was never there. We were 2-0 down early and we responded well with a goal against the wind... we thought we were going to take it to them in the second half, but it wasn't to be. We're just not scoring goals and capitalising in the periods when we're dominating the game.

Man of the Match
Mark Tsiolas
(Blues)



John Markovski's goal in the 4th minute opened the scoring for the Blues

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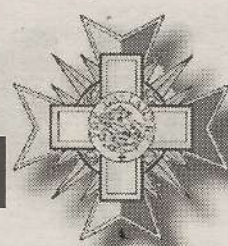


VODAFONE CUP

Round 24



GEORGIES TAKE DERBY POINTS IN SURVIVAL WIN



ONE DOWN TWO TO GO, GEORGIES NOT SAFE YET

Green Gully Cavaliers 1 - 2 Sunshine Georgies



The Green Gully Cavaliers have avoided relegation in 2006, pending the outcome of a tribunal hearing into Heidelberg's 4-1 win over the Essendon Royals. Heidelberg defeated Essendon last week, but Essendon has protested the result of the match.

Unfortunately, the Cavaliers have lost the front-running for a finals place, falling to eighth position, but still have a chance as 6th placed Preston will 7th placed Richmond next week.

Green Gully welcomed back Joel Nikolic and Andy Vargas to the starting line-up but were well short of resources as Ryan Ollerton missed the match with illness. With Jeffrey Fleming already away on international duty, the absence of Ollerton left the Cavaliers exposed in the defensive midfield role.

Both teams were evenly matched in the first half of play. Fidell Richards was causing the home team a great deal of havoc before being taken away to hospital in a fall that had dislocated his elbow. Midway through the first period, Dean Fak, by far Gully's best player today, hit the frame of the Georgies goal with a header from a corner kick. Just before half-time, Emmanuel Muscat put the visitors ahead with a speculative headed attempt on goal. Muscat made it 2-0 for the Georgies, beating Ante Loncaric with a tame effort at the near post, shortly after Zoran Markovski harshly received his marching orders for a tackle in his own half. Substitute Peter Hader got one back for the Cavaliers, as the balance of play started to turn towards the Cavaliers, but time ran out on Green Gully.

Green Gully's Under 21's lost 3-1 to Sunshine, one more point from the two remaining fixtures will see Gully finish ahead of second placed Richmond, but third place Preston have four games in hand putting pressure on Gully's Under 21's to take as many points away from their last two matches to win the Under 21 championship.

By Markian Jaworsky
Photos by Steve Starek and Daniel Flis

What the Coaches Said...

Ian Dobson
Coach, Green Gully:

It was a very close game and Sunshine got the break in the first-half right on half-time. The sending off had a big effect on the game and once we had to chase with ten men, it was always going to be very difficult. I was pleased with the effort from the players at Green Gully and congratulations to Sunshine on winning this local derby.

Fab Incantaloupo
Asst Coach, Sunshine Georgies:

Great effort! We knew with the position we were in, we had to get three points away from home. With two games to go, we're still not out of it just yet, but it was a tremendous effort from the boys.

Man of the Match
Manny Muscat
(Georgies)



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VODAFONE CUP

Round 24



VICTORY CATAPULTS LIONS INTO TOP 6

KINGSTON'S WOES CONTINUE



Kingston City 2 - 1 Preston Lions



What the Coaches Said...

Ken Murphy
Coach, Kingston City:

We probably dominated the game, but if you're going to miss your chances and concede soft goals, then you're not good enough. At the moment we're not good enough and we've got a lot of hard work to do. We've really got to get some focus on our defence and make sure...we dominated long periods and copped two goals in quick succession. You can make all the excuses you want, but when you lose, you're just not good enough.

Goran Lozanovski
Coach, Preston Lions:

It was a very hard game and I was pleased with our work ethic. We did well to hold them off and get the result. It was a battle from start to finish, but I'm satisfied that we managed to come away with the result against a very strong team.

Man of the Match
Savas Ozdemir
(Lions)

Kingston City and the Preston Lions was only open to members of both clubs, the media and a heavy police presence as they were a number of die hard supporters trying to watch from outside the ground.

The Lions were without their influential playmaker Anthony Magnacca who was on trial in Italy's Serie C, putting the responsibility firmly on midfield maestro Stephen Pace. Meanwhile Kenny Murphy's attempts at rejuvenating the Reds season hit another snag after he was forced to field another inexperienced side due to the unavailability through injury of the experienced Alex Kiratzoglou, hard man Nick Tolios whilst a half fit Captain Joe Spiteri could only make it onto the substitute bench.

It was a free flowing opening whereby both sides traded "blows" and had glorious opportunities to open the scoring. Joey Di Iorio was brilliantly denied in the 10th minute by Savas Ozdemir after he was through one on one. Five minutes later it was Johnny Sapazovski's venomous strike which was brilliantly turned for a corner by Daniel Zilic at the other end. Young striker Peter Koutsopoulos could have made himself a hero in the 17th minute instead he was left

in the box only to smash his header against the post following Michael Curcija's pin point cross.

Ozdemir continued his fine form and saved his sides blushes, when he twice thwarted Curcija, once from close range and the then again just before the break when he tipped over the bar a curling strike that kept the scores level.

Seemingly buoyed by Goran Lozanovski's half time speech the Lions came out firing in the second stanza and it only took three minutes for the enigmatic Sapazovski to strike. Preston's favourite son reacted quickest to Nick Lazarevski's saved shot and pounced on the easy tap in to make it 1-0 for the visitors.

With the Reds desperate to get their season back on track they were severely wounded by the blow and their haphazard defending cost them again, when they went further behind in the 52nd minute. Sapazovski supplied an audacious cross with the outside of his boot, to find an unmarked Marinos Gasparis. The former Sunshine Georgies youth player superbly crashed his first time volley home from the tightest of angles and further cemented the Lions lead.

In an extraordinary opening thirteen minutes to the

in the 58th minute. The deadly marksman struck a perfectly executed left foot volley with his back towards goals and beyond the seemingly invincible Ozdemir.

Curcija's goal seemed to inspire the home side and they were pressing forward with Preston packing the defence and trying to hold on to their 2-1 lead, happy to hit on the counter attack. Unfortunately for the Reds their attacks were being thwarted as they lacked that incisive final ball to their forwards and continued to make Preston's it easy for the Lions defenders.

The match finished 2-1 with the visitors truly in the hunt for a top six berth and peaking at the right time of the year. In contrast, the hapless Reds poor form continues and Ken Murphy will have to draw upon all his experience and tactical know how to turn things around in an unexplainable form slump which doesn't look to be finishing.

By Chris Priftis
Photos by John Punshon



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VODAFONE CUP

Round 24


MAGIC POURS PRESSURE ON PINES

FRANKSTON'S FUTURE IN THE TOP FLIGHT LOOKING GRIM



Frankston Pines 0 - 2 Altona Magic

Frankston Pines' Vodafone Cup status hangs by a single thread after it went down 2-0 to Altona Magic at Monterey Reserve on Saturday.

With only two matches now remaining to complete the 2006 home and away season, Frankston Pines sits firmly on the bottom of the ladder on 22 points and would need a minor miracle to avoid playing State League Division One football next season.

The club welcomed back Colin Stewart from an overseas trip and fellow striker Nick Waite hoped to have gained some support in the endless battle to score a goal for his team's cause, but Altona's defence proved more than capable on the day to handle any danger that came its way and were not in as generous mood as previous weeks.

In a somewhat uneventful opening period it was Altona Magic's Tomi Razov who scored a ripper of a goal after 22 mins, giving Pines' keeper Keiren McIvor no chance and handing the visitors a well deserved 1-0 lead at the break.

In the second half the Pines pressed forward in search for an elusive equaliser with winger Cam Jones looking the more enterprising, but all to no avail.

In the 57th minute and against the run of play, Frankston's season and everything that went with it was sent reeling when Altona's Sash Becvinovski showed why he's one of the top marksmen in the state when he took his tally to 14 for the year and effectively put a seal on the games play.

Frankston on the other hand were left to ponder their numerous missed chances, namely through Craig Metcalfe, Nick Waite and Boris Oucin. Even though the game was one "not to be lost" by either side, Pines' disastrous 2006 campaign



had its foundations set well before Saturday, as a series of off field circumstances (the Perth trio's defection to South Melbourne, Craig Lewis' departure leaving Adam Jamieson with ample time to regroup the troops and questionable club administration) leaving the Peninsula side in a precarious predicament.

Altona's victory essentially assures the club finals football for another season and a possible double chance once the lottery of the top six is

decided.

By Maria Katsidis

Photos by Darryl Kennedy

Man of the Match
Tomi Razov
(Magic)

What the Coaches Said...

Adam Jamieson
Coach, Frankston Pines:

It was a very ordinary performance by us, for a club that is fighting to try and stay up in the competition. Maybe only three or four players broke even on the day and when you do that and you really don't have a winner, you're not going to get too many results are you? We're not looking too crash hot. Our survival will really depend on the rest of the weekend's results, and then we go from there. It would be good if we can take it into the last game of the year, if we can get to that stage, then that'll be great, if not, it's probably a good thing for the club to go down.

Vlado Torteovski
Coach, Altona Magic:

It was a very hard game for us today. Especially after we lost to Bulleen last week this match was a "must win". We had a little bit of pressure during the week, but everything finished well because we played a very good game and we could have scored another 2 or 3 goals towards the end.



Sash Becvinovski puts the ball away and takes his goal tally to 15



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VODAFONE CUP

Round 24



EAGLES HOLD MINOR PREMIERS



RICHMOND GETS A TASTE OF FINALS FOOTBALL

Richmond Eagles 1 - 1 Oakleigh Cannons



A stunning strike by James Baskerville five minutes from time earned Richmond a point in a great contest with minor premiers the Oakleigh Cannons in Round 24 of the Vodafone Cup.

Baskerville caused Stuart Webster some problems when jumping with him for a cross in the opening minutes, before Con Boutsianis supplied

a cross which was pounced upon by Nick Crossley in the Richmond goal as the game got off to a lively start.

Oakleigh should have opened the scoring after eight minutes, Juan Nilo being released on the left hand side of the box and squaring to an unmarked Esala Masi. The ball bounced off his shin and was cleared away for a corner by the

recovering Stuart McCluskey. From the corner Nilo headed over the crossbar from inside the six yard box.

Five minutes later came the moment Richmond could have taken the lead, Fergal O'Colmain latching onto a loose ball and driving it into where the post meets the crossbar. Having weathered some heavy early pressure from the Cannons, the Eagles were just starting to get into the game when Oakleigh made a breakthrough in the twenty-second minute. Nilo finishing with a neat volley from a superb cross to the far post by George Goutzoulis.

Sammy Poutakidis had an effort dip just over the crossbar shortly after. Stuart Webster claimed a cross from Steve Burton before Veton Korcarevski intercepted a back header and laid the ball back for Daniel Visevic to shoot wide after half an hour. Boutsianis put a free kick just wide of the upright, and the score remained 1-0 to the away team when half-time came.

When play resumed Visevic broke free on the left hand touchline, cutting in and crossing into the middle of the goal where O'Colmain just failed to meet it with his lunge. Raj Kumar unleashed a forty yard strike which only just cleared the crossbar before Anthony Pelikan forced Crossley into a save from thirty-five yards. Fifty-seven minutes in Hockless also tried his luck from long range after a short run, Stuart Webster re-gathering the ball after an awkward bounce in his initial save.

Visevic shot way over the bar from the edge of the box as the home side fought to get back on level terms. With fifteen minutes left there was a scramble in the box at a Richmond corner, Visevic unable to bring the ball down on his right foot and the ball being cleared.

Substitute James Robinson crossed from the right but the danger was averted by Stuart Webster diving on the ball. Another substitute, Veresa

What the Coaches Said...

Phil Stubbins
Coach, Richmond Eagles:

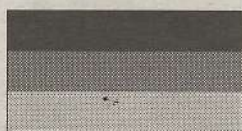
"Without a doubt Oakleigh are the best team in the league. They've got a great deal of experience and to the credit of my boys we showed some belief and certainly pushed them all the way. Over the whole context of the ninety minutes, I'm more than happy with the draw and the boys' performance. We just seem to keep on digging deep. I'd like to think that Richmond has got a lot of respect now."

Stuart Munro
Coach, Oakleigh Cannons:

"It was a great night for football on Friday night and I thought it was a very entertaining game. I was very pleased the way the boys went about the job. I thought we played very well and Richmond gave a good account of themselves. From our point of view I was always concerned how my team would react to this match considering the first part of the job has been done and the last three games are sort of meaningless for us, but we played ever so well and I'm very pleased about that."

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Man of the Match
Juan Nilo
(Cannons)

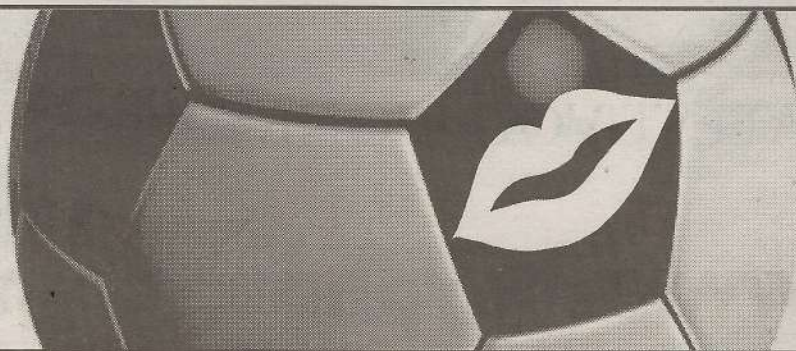
high over the bar for Oakleigh.

With five minutes left, Robinson played in a clever ball with the outside of his foot to find Brendan Beni clear in the middle of goal, Stuart Webster blocking the attempt. The ball was then cleared to Baskerville who drove it into the top corner from twenty yards to draw the Eagles level.

Two minutes later Nilo had the ball in the back of the net but was ruled offside. Xhezair Sulemani struck just over the bar from 35 yards before Benin's cross saw a shot by Burton blocked as the game came to an end with the score still level.

By Mark Boric
Photos by Daniel Flis

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VODAFONE CUP

Round 24



ZEBRAS OUT FOR REVENGE AGAINST DETERMINED SOUTH



Bulleen Zebras vs South Melbourne



Monday night's blockbuster between Bulleen and South Melbourne shapes as the most important match in round 24 of the Vodafone Cup.

While their victory over Altona granted Bulleen a reprieve and rocketed them back into finals contention, a loss against league giants South Melbourne may

plummet the side back into a relegation battle for the second consecutive season to ensure survival.

For South, despite a valiant performance in their battle with Oakleigh at Bob Jane Stadium, the loss placed the side's top two aspirations in jeopardy, and after Altona's victory over Frankston on Saturday, the lakeside based club need a victory to reclaim second place.

Despite not possessing the most outstanding squad in the league, Bulleen has proved themselves capable of upsetting many of the more highly rated sides in the league, with the club having beaten Kingston and

Altona in recent weeks.

Although Bulleen's defence has proved amongst the league's best, conceding 32 goals this season, the Zebras weakness lays in its less than formidable forward line.

But, if Ben Harbinson and Ricky Diaco perform at their optimum level, the side's overall complexion and attacking capabilities improves dramatically.

Commencing the season with hopes of challenging for the Vodafone Cup at season's beginning, the South threat has perhaps tapered away in recent weeks, with the side desperately missing a star up front.

Having only won two games since their 7-0 demolition of rivals Melbourne Knights in early June, South need to recapture the form of that game in order to fulfil their lofty expectations.

In a game that is so vital to both sides, Bulleen and South Melbourne are sure to be cautious in their approach, but with the support of a vocal home crowd behind them, the Zebras may emerge victors in a situation that they thrive upon. However, their lakeside-based opponents are a team that cannot be discounted.

By Simon Chiarelli



Above: Action between the Zebras and the knights in Round 21

Above Left: South ended battered and bruised after a physical encounter with Oakleigh last week. Photos by John Punshon and Steve Starek

What the Coaches Said..

Michael Michalakopoulos
Coach, Bulleen Zebras:

"After last week's performance, winning away from home against one of the teams in the top three, has given us an added impetus for the final three rounds. We've still got a lot to play for and being our last home game for the season we'd like to make sure we finish well for our supporters. Also, we were humiliated in the first round against Sth Melb 4-1, so you could say we've got a bit of a score to settle. We need a couple more wins and draw if we stand a chance of sneaking into the top six - which would be a great effort by all concerned."

John Anastasiadis
Coach, South Melbourne:

"It's definitely a must win game for us... if we want to stay in second position and grab the double chance we need to win all three remaining games, and the first one starts on Monday night. We're expecting a difficult game and realise Bulleen are still pushing for a place in the top six, but it's all up to us to try and consolidate."

FORM TABLE Past 8 matches

Bulleen Zebras

	matches	won	draw	lost	goals	points
home	8	3	2	3	8 - 7	11
away	8	2	2	4	8 - 14	8
total	16	5	4	7	16 - 21	19

South Melbourne

	matches	won	draw	lost	goals	points
home	8	4	2	2	19 - 6	14
away	8	2	2	4	8 - 11	8
total	16	6	4	6	27 - 17	22

MONDAY MATCH STATS

	BZ	SM
Recent form HOME	L-L-W-L	L-L-D-D
Recent form AWAY	W-L-L-L	W-W-D-L

Next info is based on last 50 matches

Home win	40%	64%
Home draw	32%	18%
Home lost	28%	18%
Home goals	1.12 PM	1.92 PM
Away win	17%	30%
Away draw	29%	26%
Away lost	54%	44%
Away goals	0.75 PM	1.1 PM

Past matches

Apr 30, 2006 VPL South Melbourne Bulleen 4 - 1
Jun 12, 2005 VPL South Melbourne Bulleen 1 - 0
Feb 28, 2005 VPL Bulleen South Melbourne 0 - 1

PM= Per Match



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STATE LEAGUES



Seniors		NORTH WEST 2		Reserves		Seniors		SOUTH EAST 2		Reserves		ROUND NINETEEN													
Thomastown Devils 2 (D Giarratana, O Ayache) Williamstown 3 (F Yetimidis, N Milenkovic, Own Goal) (HT: 0-1), Westvale 2 (H Timotheou, T Timotheou) Banyule City 0 (HT: 1-0), Kellor Park 1 (P Tawaf) Altona City 0 (HT: 0-0), Pascoe Vale 0 Yarraville Glory 1 (A Couceiro) (HT: 0-0), Moreland City 2 (T Carson, G Murdoch) Maribymong Greens 0 (HT: 1-0), Lalor United 0 Westgate 1 (D Mardaca) (HT: 0-0)						Kellor Park 3 Westgate 1, Lalor United 3 Williamstown 2, Thomastown Devils 0 Maribymong Greens 2, Moreland City 3 Yarraville Glory 0, Pascoe Vale 3 Banyule City 1, Westvale 0 Altona City 2						Doncaster Rovers 2 (Z Stefanidis, G McAleer) Knox City 0 (HT: 1-0), Southern Stars 1 (J Castel) Stonnington City 2 (P Liapis, O Mejias) (HT: 0-2), Eastern Lions SC 2 (J McEvoy, S Groom) Clayton 2 (S Iliadis, D Schulberg) (HT: 0-1), Chelsea 2 (P Filipovic, A Jelic) South Springvale 2 (A Kiriopoulou, A Mtsiopoulou) (HT: 0-0), Clifton Hill United 0 Cranbourne Comets 2 (F Korkaric, D Terek) (HT: 0-1), Diamond Valley United 1 (S Wilhelm) Waverley Wanderers 1 (M Panaghis) (HT: 1-0)		Doncaster Rovers 3 Knox City 2, Southern Stars 0 Stonnington City 3, Eastern Lions SC 3 Clayton 0, Clifton Hill United 1 Cranbourne Comets 0, Diamond Valley United 2 Waverley Wanderers 2, Chelsea 1 South Springvale 9											
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STATE LEAGUE ONE

Catch-Up
Round



State 1 Promotion Race Heats Up

As the Vodafone Division One season enters its final stages and reaches a Catch-Up Round in which there is only one game, and a vital one for North Geelong at that, we pause to look at the situation, asking which clubs will finish in the top two and who looks the more likely to finish in the bottom two places and be relegated. Also, we take a look at the third last position which requires a Playoff process to defend the position in Division One. What is surprising is that from a standpoint of the league, at least ten of the teams are still involved in the various promotion and relegation battles at this stage of the season.

The Top of the League:

As at the time of writing, before the North Geelong v Coburg result was known, the standings were as follows: Western Suburbs 38, Springvale WE 35, Langwarrin 29, North Geelong 28.

Looking at this and bearing in mind that there are four games left for all the teams, Western Suburbs and Springvale are in pole position to win the two promotion spots by virtue there is a six point gap between second placed Springvale and third placed Langwarrin. As we know however soccer can throw up all sorts of results and finishes.

Western Suburbs

This side has had an amazing run, especially in the second half of the season and thoroughly deserves its lead in the division. Shrewd off-season recruiting and the work of their coaching staff and committee has taken them from a midtable team of the past few seasons to being at the crest of promotion into the Vodafone Premier League Round 19 Langwarrin (H), Round 20 St Albans (H), Round 21 Northcote (A), Round 22 North Geelong (H). This is by far the hardest run home of any of the top four sides and they could well be thankful for the gap they have on the rest of the field which is nine points from third placed Langwarrin.

A win against Langwarrin next week however will ensure that they will achieve promotion by guaranteeing they will finish in the top two.

Springvale White Eagles

The White Eagles finished 2005 as champions of State League Division Two South East and were quite convincing in taking this title. They had assembled a powerful, consistent squad and only added minimally to it and have been as competitive from round one up until now. They currently have a six point buffer between themselves and third placed Langwarrin.

Round 19 North Geelong (A), Round 20 North Coburg (H), Round 21 Brunswick (A) Round 22 Dandenong (H)

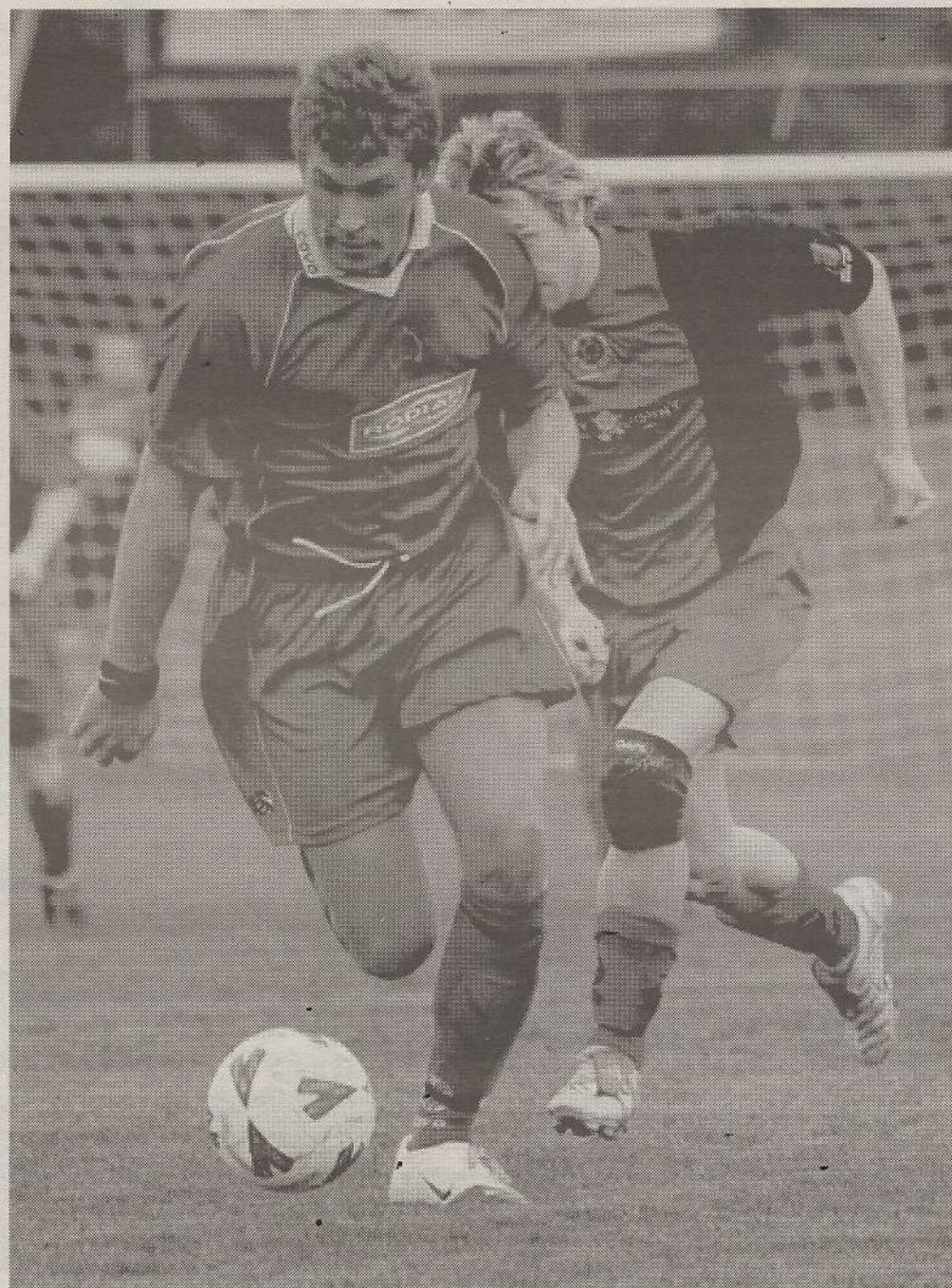
The Eagles probably need to win two games to be assured of gaining promotion and they'd want to win three to be totally sure.

Langwarrin

The side from Lawton Park has snuck up on everyone without the fanfare and find themselves in third spot, with an outside shot to sneak into second spot. They would probably have to win all four remaining games or at the very least three, and hope that others slip up.

Round 19 Western Suburbs (A), Round 20 Dandenong (A), Round 21 St Albans (H) Round 22 Port Melbourne (A)

Next week's game shapes as a blockbuster with Western Suburbs at Ralph Reserve. A win and they are still in the chase, a loss and it becomes a long shot, but either way they've had a strong and consistent season and they can be



Goal machine: Caleb Nichols has had an awesome season for Langwarrin and most recently recorded a hat-trick

fairly pleased with coming close.

North Geelong

North Geelong remain a factor considering they have the catch up game as well, which if they win will leave them on 31 points and right in the mix. If they loose, it they become a total rank outsider.

Round 19 Springvale WE (H), Round 20 Altona East (A), Round 21 Bentleigh (H) Round 22 Western Suburbs (A)

If they survived today's catch up game then it comes down to how they can rumble with the top teams. I would say

they need to win all four games.

In conclusion I think it will stay as it is with Western Suburbs and Springvale White Eagles in the top two spots, though I think the Eagles may wind up first and Suburbs second.

Next week we'll look at life at the bottom.

By Reuben Schembri
Photos by John Punshon

ROUND NINETEEN FIXTURES

BRUNSWICK CITY
v
DANDENONG THUNDER
Dunstan Reserve,
Brunswick Mel: 29 B4
Saturday 19th August
KO 3pm

NORTH GEELONG WARRIORS
v
SPRINGVALE WHITE EAGLES
Elcho Park,
Lara MEL: 608 D15
Saturday 19th August
KO 3pm

WESTERN SUBURBS
v
LANGWARRIN
Ralph Reserve,
Ardeer Mel: 40 A2
Sunday 20th August
KO 3pm

NORTH COBURG UNITED
v
PORT MELBOURNE
Reddish Reserve,
Glenroy MEL: 17 E14
Sunday 20th August
KO 3pm

NORTHCOTE CITY
v
ALTONA EAST PHOENIX
John Cain Memorial Park,
Thornbury MEL: 31 A6
Sunday 20th August
KO 3pm

ST ALBANS SAINTS
v
BENTLEIGH GREENS
Churhill Reserve,
St Albans Mel: 14 D10
Sunday 20th August
KO 3pm

STATE ONE SENIORS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	T
Western Suburbs SC	18	11	5	2	31	15	38	
Springvale White Eagles SC	18	10	5	3	26	17	35	
Langwarrin SC	18	7	8	3	34	18	29	
North Geelong Warriors SC	18	7	8	3	38	31	29	
North Coburg United SC	18	6	8	4	27	18	26	
St. Albans Saints SC	18	6	8	4	22	16	26	
Port Melbourne Sharks SC	18	5	7	6	25	30	22	
Dandenong Thunder SC	18	4	6	8	20	29	18	
Brunswick City SC	18	5	3	10	25	40	18	
Bentleigh Greens SC	18	3	6	9	20	26	15	
Altona East Phoenix SC	18	2	9	7	12	27	15	
Northcote City SC	18	3	5	10	14	27	14	

Round 4 Catch-Up Game

North Coburg United 2
(M Mustafa, R Dolevski)
North Geelong Warriors 2
A Cervinski, T Saric (HT: 0-1)

STATE ONE RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	T
Western Suburbs SC	18	13	2	3	47	18	41	
Langwarrin SC	18	11	6	1	44	22	39	
Springvale White Eagles SC	18	11	5	2	44	20	38	
Dandenong Thunder SC	18	11	0	7	40	22	33	
Brunswick City SC	18	10	3	5	37	35	33	
Northcote City SC	18	10	2	6	41	29	32	
Bentleigh Greens SC	18	4	6	8	25	36	18	
North Geelong Warriors SC	18	4	3	11	19	35	15	
Altona East Phoenix SC	18	3	6	9	14	34	15	
North Coburg United SC	18	4	2	12	18	39	14	
Port Melbourne Sharks SC	18	3	4	11	24	41	13	
St. Albans Saints SC	18	3	3	12	17	39	12	

North Geelong 0
Brunswick City 1,
Bentleigh Greens 1
Altona East 2,
Western Suburbs 1
Springvale Eagles 1,
St. Albans Saints 0
Port Melbourne 0,
Northcote City 3 Dan-
denong Thunder 0,
North Coburg United 0
Langwarrin 1



BOO'S WORLD

A satirical look at the World of Football according to Mark Boric



Football fan and Buffalo Soldier: Bob Marley himself has a repertoire of songs that can be adopted as victory songs by football clubs

fellow columnist Katsa, who made complaints about the safety of the entry to the ground at Kevin Bartlett Reserve, having nearly fallen over on his way in. Should he be looking at starting some form of litigation, I remind him how often he has documented the fact that he spends most of his time in the company of Jack Daniels, Jim Beam and Johnnie Walker, and this may be

would weigh heavily with a judge in any such proceedings.

Pretty much every club sings the same song after a win, but has anyone ever thought of using the line "and if you know your history" to switch over to Bob Marley's Buffalo Soldier for variety. "Then you would know where you coming from. Then you wouldn't have to ask me, Who the eck do I think I am." Yes he was a buffalo soldier, a dreadlock Rasta.

I don't wish to disparage the A-League Pre-Season Cup too much, but penalty shoot-outs for fifth place? They are joking, right?

With a few players heading overseas for trials at the business end of the season, maybe the FFV may have to look at scrapping the Finals Series. If Preston Lions make it and half their games have to be lock-outs it is hardly worth bothering with anyway.

Looking at the Australian squad for the game against Kuwait, you'd have to say Danny Allsopp was unlucky not to make the cut. Especially after Iain Fyfe got in. The last time Australia played Kuwait, in 2000, Michael Curcija came on as a substitute.

Now that he is number two coach in the National team set-up behind Graham Arnold, John Kosmina now says we don't need an overseas coach. Not hard to figure the motive there, is it.

I'd love to write some more, but am not feeling too well and throwing up on my keyboard

has not done it much good. On that cheery note, have a good week.

mboric@goalweekly.com

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A QUESTION OF SPORT

- 1/ Which A-league coach has been appointed as the Socceroo assistant coach for the Asian Cup qualifiers?
- 2/ Melbourne Victory's Rod Vargas played for which team in the NSL?
- 3/ In 1977, Borussia Monchengladbach's Allan Simonsen was awarded the European 'Player of the Year'. Do you know which Scandinavian country he represented as an international?
- 4/ During a match are there any circumstances under which a referee may reverse a decision?
- 5/ Jacob Timpano plays for which A-league side?
- 6/ True or false? Melbourne Victory's Socceroo striker Archie Thompson was born in New Zealand.
- 7/ Futsal was first introduced in Australia in 1962, 1972 or 1982?
- 8/ Which teams are in Australia's group for the U20 Women's World Cup?
- 9/ Which three teams were promoted to this season English Premier League?
- 10/ Which NSW city is preparing to bid for an A-league licence?



Refer to question 3



Thanks to Melbourne's newest soccer depot, Soccer Scene, Goal! Weekly will be giving away a Patrick soccer ball each week to the first correct entry of the Soccer Scene

"Question of the Week."

This week's question is:
Which Chilean club did the Young Socceroos play in their opening match on their South American tour?

Send in your entry today to:
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Vodafone Cup highlights
with Ross Alatsis

The Green Gully Soccer Show
Channel 31
Saturdays, 10.30am

The World Game
SBS
Sundays, 2pm - 5.30pm

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ON THE AIRWAVES

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With Michael Zappone and
former Socceroo legend
Paul Trimboli.

Monday Night Football
96.5 Inner FM
Mondays 8pm
Featuring coverage
of the Vodafone Cup with
John Canaglia.

The Diamond Valley Soccer Show
88.6 FM
12.30pm & 5.20pm
every Saturday

FOOTBALL QUOTES

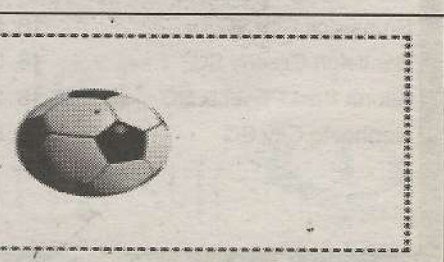
The trouble with referees is that they know the rules,
but they do not know the game.
-- Bill Shankly

You son, could start a riot in a graveyard.
-- Bill Shankly (to Tommy Smith)

If you are first you are first. If you are second you
are nothing.
-- Bill Shankly ..again

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. John Kosmina
2. Melbourne Knights
3. Denmark
4. Yes. At any time before play recommences.
5. Sydney FC
6. True
7. 1972
8. New Zealand, Brazil and Russia
9. Sheffield United, Reading and Watford
10. Wollongong



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Course 2: September 25 to 29, 2006
10 am to 3 pm

\$350 per person

For all enquiries and telephone bookings call
Jennifer Duffy on 0413 738 988





PRESTON



Photo by Daniel Flis

Back Row: Cane Bogdanovski, Zelko Grgela, Joni Sapazon
Steven Pace, Erhan Karahan, Goce C

Seated Row: Marino Gasparis, Steven Masalkovski, N
Pece Siveski, Tayfun De

Bottom Row: Younes Said, C



vodafone

LIONS FC



ski, Les Anastasiou, Alesader Stojanovski, Savas Ozdemir,
 Gruevski, Nik Atanasovski (President)
 k Lazarevski, Goran Lozanovski (Coach), Zla Younan,
 yrimol, Goce Gorgievski
 Goce Petrovski, Bale Micovski

GOAL!
 WEEKLY



2006/2007 A-League Pre-Season Cup



Coveney Goal Not Enough for Jets



2 CC Mariners

1 NC Jets

The Central Coast Mariners will play Adelaide United in the final of the A-League Pre-Season Cup after producing a come-from-behind 2-1 win over a 10-man Newcastle Jets outfit in a spiteful encounter at Bluetongue Stadium, Gosford.

Two penalties, one red card and 10 yellow cards were given in the fiery local derby in front of 7567 spectators in a match of two distinct halves.

Newcastle started the game full of running and had the better of the opening stanza, creating plenty of opportunities on the back of exciting attacking midfielder Nick Carle.

The Jets were able to convert the pressure into a goal in the 25th minute when Mark Bridge slipped a great ball through to forward partner Vaughan Coveney who slotted home a convincing strike to leave Central Coast keeper Danny Vukovic with no chance.

Newcastle were unlucky not to go two-up in the 36th minute when Carle curled a lovely free kick from the edge of the penalty area only for Vukovic to swat away the shot as it appeared to be going into the net.

Down the other end, Mariners midfielder Damien Brown went agonisingly close to levelling the scores in the 40th minute when his left-footed half volley was turned around the outside post by Jets keeper Ben Kennedy and the Newcastle went to the break holding a 1-0 lead.

But the game was turned on its head just after half time when Newcastle was reduced to 10 men when defender Shane Webb, making his first appearance for the club after being signed to a short-term deal during the week, brought down Mariners striker Adam Kwasnik in the penalty area.

Referee Ben Williams gave Webb a straight red for bringing down the lanky Central Coast forward from behind. Kwasnik took the place kick but failed to convert when Kennedy dived to low to his right to save the shot. Amazingly, the Mariners received a second penalty just four minutes later when Kwasnik was again impeded in the area this time by Jets defender Andrew Durante. Regular penalty taker, veteran striker Stewart Petrie, stepped up for the Central Coast to smash home the equaliser.

With the man advantage, the Mariners began to exploit the overlap and looked certain to add another goal but desperate last-ditch defence from the Jets and some good saves from Kennedy kept the Jets in the match.

As a counter measure, Jets coach Nick Theodorakopoulos rotated his players and brought on striker Joel Griffiths whose darting runs started to cause trouble for the tiring Mariners defenders until Socceroos legend Tony Vidmar made his debut appearance in the A-League for the Central Coast in the 73rd minute to firm up the Mariners defence.

Both sides went close to grabbing a winner in the final 20 minutes but were unable put the ball in the back of the net as the action went end-to-end in exciting all out attack, and the sides were locked at 1-1 at the end of regular time.

Mariners defender Paul O'Grady eventually broke the deadlock six minutes into extra time when he flicked on Vuko Tomasevic's free kick from 30 metres out - the defender's header wrong-footed Kennedy and the ball dribbled into the corner of the Newcastle net.



Action between Newcastle and Central Coast

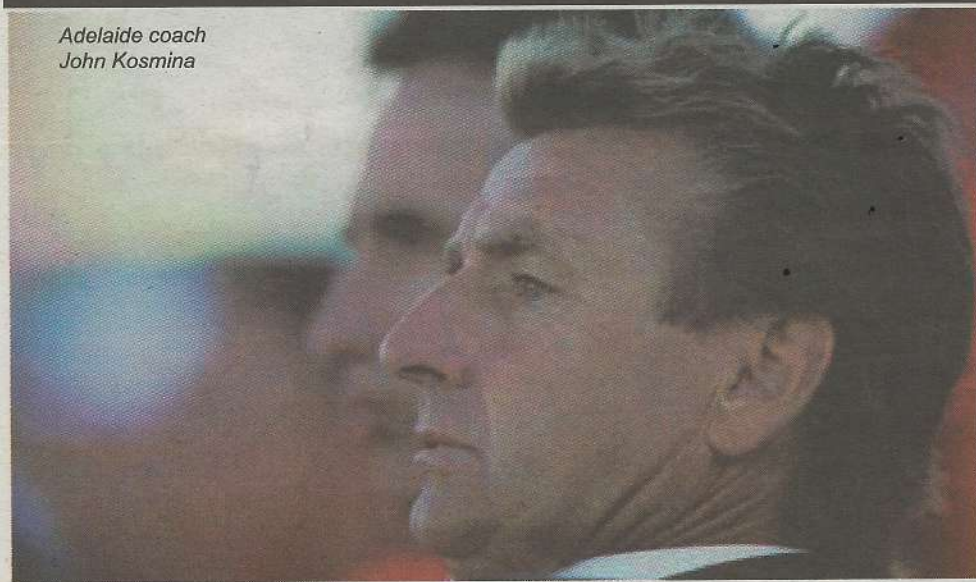
Carle went close to pulling it back for the Jets late into extra time when his low-struck free kick was kept out by the Mariners keeper Vukovic and again just a minute later when he struck a left foot screamer that hit the post. The Mariners, defending Pre-Season Cup champions managed to hold on for the win and will now host Adelaide United in the A-League Pre-Season Cup Final next

Saturday night.

Central Coast Mariners 2
Petrie (pen. 52), O'Grady (96)
Newcastle 1
Coveney (25)

Adelaide defeats Sydney To Proceed

Adelaide coach John Kosmina



1 Sydney FC

2 Adelaide Utd

Adelaide United has advanced through to the 2006 Pre-Season Cup final after a 90th minute goal from Kristian Rees gave his side a 2-1 victory over Sydney FC at WIN Stadium in Wollongong.

Substitute Rees headed home the winner just as the match looked certain to be heading to extra time, setting up a final with the winner of the second semi-final between the Central Coast Mariners and the Newcastle Jets.

The hosts were reduced to 10 men for the entire second half when Alvin Ceccoli was given a red card by referee Mark Shield for foul and abusive language at the conclusion of the opening term.

Sydney was again without the services of star Dwight Yorke as he recovers from a groin injury in time for the start of the regular season, and was still missing Ufuk Talay, who was ruled out prior to the side's bonus round clash with Perth.

The inaugural Hyundai A-League champions were on the attack without delay and had their first real shot at goal in the fourth minute, when Adelaide defender Michael Valkanis underweighted a pass back to the keeper.

With Robert Bajic leaving the goal to take the ball, Petrovski pounced, but his chip sailed over both Bajic and the crossbar.

Adelaide had a chance in the 12th minute when Greg Owens fired a screamer from directly in front, but the

shot shaved the crossbar on its way over.

Last year's minor premiers opened the scoring in the 16th minute with Travis Dodd slotting a goal under Sydney goalkeeper Clint Bolton.

The hosts immediately went searching for the equaliser and nearly had it a minute later when Alex Brosque attempted to fire home a Steve Corica pass, but the shot was too high.

Adelaide looked certain to score a second goal in the 41st minute when Owens wrong-footed Bolton and had an open goal, but in a twist of luck for Sydney, the ball hit the far post and bounced out where it was desperately cleared.

The equaliser eventually came in the 43rd minute when David Carney eased in a cross from Corica.

As half-time approached, Sydney tried desperately to score its second, but the Adelaide defence held tight and the teams headed to the break with the scores locked at 1-1.

It was difficult to tell the hosts were down a man as the second half began, with the players stepping up to cover the loss.

Their defence tightened and repelled a determined United attack, while Brosque, who had been kept relatively quiet in the first half, began to fire in combination with Carney.

The visitors began to capitalise on the man advantage in the final stages of the match as they stepped up their hunt for the decider, with Rees heading home the winner with a minute to spare.

Sydney will now fight out the loser of Saturday's semi-final clash at Central Coast Stadium for third place.

Adelaide United 2 (Dodd 16, Rees 90)
Sydney FC 1 (Carney 43)

It's Glory For Perth against NZ



0 NZ Knights

1 Perth Glory

A late goal from Stuart Young has given the Perth Glory a 1-0 win over the New Zealand Knights at North Harbour Stadium on Friday night.

The Glory were under the pump for much of the match but Young took the opportunity when it was presented to him just three minutes from time to put Perth through to the fifth-place play-off next week.

The Knights were punished for not making the most of their opportunities and they will have to find a way to score goals soon after being held scoreless for their third consecutive match.

The Knights were on the attack from the opening minute and could have opened the scoring in just the second minute when Noah Hickey delivered an inviting cross from the left flank.

But Glory captain Jamie Hamwell, as he did throughout

the match, was able to do enough to prevent Dani Rodrigues from handing the Knights the early lead.

The Knights were the more adventurous of the two sides for much of the match, pinning the Glory inside their half for long periods.

Although the Knights looked the better side, Andy Petterson was largely unemployed in the Perth goal as it took 45 minutes before he made a save of any note.

The Knights were creating problems with Hickey, Jonti Richter and Malik Buari on the flanks but they weren't able to deliver the final telling ball to put the Knights in front.

Without any quality possession Perth soaked up the pressure and counter-attacked whenever possible, and it nearly resulted in the early lead.

Knights fourth choice goalkeeper Ivan Necevski was the first of the custodians to be tested when he parried away Josip Magdic's speculative shot in the 14th minute.

Perth midfielder Mislav Saric also came close to bending one inside Necevski's post in the 20th minute.

Just six minutes into the second spell Neil Emblen was given his first appearance of the season when he replaced Che Bunce, and he almost made an immediate impact.

The tall defender found the ball at his feet after a Buari corner but he dragged his shot wide and Petterson once again wasn't tested.

The Knights continued to press the Perth goal as the match continued in the second spell but the Glory were able to snuff out the majority of the attacking threats with little difficulty.

Hickey was presented with a great opportunity to break the stalemate in the 72nd minute but his volley sliced off the outside of his left foot.

Just a minute later the Knights were got closer but not close enough when the hard working Richard Johnson struck a shot from 20 metres out that shaved the left post of Petterson's goal.

The game opened up in the last 15 minutes as both sides attempted to prevent extra time from taking place.

The Glory were then able to make the most of their only, clear cut opportunity of the match when Young scored in the 87th minute, bending his effort around the hapless Necevski.

New Zealand Knights 0
Perth Glory 1 (Young 87)

All information on this page is courtesy of the FFA and A-League.

GROUP A

	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	Central Coast Mariners FC	4	2	2	0	5	2	3	8
2.	Adelaide United FC	4	2	2	0	2	0	2	8
3.	Melbourne Victory FC	4	1	1	2	5	7	-2	6
4.	Perth Glory FC	4	0	2	2	2	6	-4	2

GROUP B

	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1.	Sydney FC	4	3	1	0	7	2	5	12
2.	Newcastle Jets FC	4	0	2	2	4	6	-2	3
3.	New Zealand Knights FC	4	0	3	1	2	3	-1	3
4.	Queensland Roar FC	4	0	3	1	2	3	-1	3

vodafone

WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE

Round 21



WPL Plays Catch-Up

Despite the Vodafone WPL taking a break for a catch-up round, the number of postponed games during the season meant that there was still plenty of action in the league. In the games that have taken place since last weekend, Box Hill, Sandringham, Eltham and Keilor have all enjoyed wins, with all results having a significant effect both on the race for the finals and to avoid the drop.

Sandringham kept its chances of making the finals alive on Thursday night at Darebin International Sports Centre with a 2-0 victory over Eltham North. It was an important result for Sandringham, meaning that although it ends the week still in sixth position, it is only two points behind Keilor and Cranbourne. However, both sides have the advantage of at least one game in hand, whereas Sandringham is now up to date. Its Round 22 clash with Cranbourne Comets is increasingly shaping as make or break for both sides regarding the finals.

Eltham North may have suffered a setback on Thursday with its defeat to Sandringham, but it bounced back very quickly to produce a narrow victory at Eastern Lions on Sunday. A single second half goal was all that separated the sides at full time, but it is a crucial result for both

sides. With two games remaining, the win puts a four-point cushion between Eltham and the relegation zone, and it is now just one point behind Eastern Lions. Both sides are not yet safe from relegation however, despite the gap that has opened up.

Keilor Park ended Bendigo Vipers chances of making the finals in a thrilling match at Keilor Park Reserve on Sunday. Keilor looked to be cruising to victory after opening up a three goals to one lead by halftime, but Bendigo refused to lie down and fought back in the second half, outscoring the home side. However, Keilor hung on to win the match 5-4 and hold on to fifth position. Bendigo remains seventh, six points adrift with only two matches to go, and so it will miss out on the finals this season.

Box Hill Inter climbed back to the top of the WPL ladder with its second win of the season over Heidelberg United, although this triumph did not prove as comfortable as its Round 14 4-0 victory. With Heidelberg still aspiring to a top two finish, the stakes were high, and the match proved understandably close. Nothing could separate the teams at halftime, with both having found the net once. Box Hill broke the deadlock in the second period, with one more goal proving enough to take the three points and guarantee

itself a top two finish. Heidelberg remains third, but it has the opportunity to still make the top two, providing it can defeat Ashburton when the two meet next weekend.

Round 21 looks like being the last roll of the dice for some teams, with several crucial games taking place. Cranbourne can make sure of its place in the finals when it plays Brimbank at the Italo-Australian Social Club on Saturday, with Bendigo Vipers taking on Preston Lions at Strathfieldsaye Sport Complex later the same afternoon. On Sunday South Melbourne takes on Eastern Lions at Bob Jane Stadium in a relegation battle that the Albert Park side has to win to have any chance of avoiding relegation. Second plays third at Ashburton Park when Ashburton hosts Heidelberg, while Eltham North welcomes Keilor Park to Partington Flats for a match that could have a bearing on both relegation and the finals. The final match of the round, Sandringham against Box Hill, will take place on Tuesday week at DISC.

By Niki Cook
Photos by John Punshon



Action from last week's match between Heidelberg and Eltham

ROUND TWENTY-ONE
FIXTURESBRIMBANK
v
CRANBOURNE COMETS

Italo-Australian Social Club
Sunshine Mel: 26 E5
Saturday 19th August
KO 1PM

BENDIGO VIPERS
v
PRESTON LIONS

Strathfieldsaye Sports Complex
Bendigo
Saturday 19th August
KO 2.30PM

ELTHAM NORTH
v
KEILOR PARK

Partington Flats
Greensborough Mel: 10 K12
Sunday 20th August
KO 3PM

SOUTH MELBOURNE
v
EASTERN LIONS

Bob Jane Stadium
Albert Park Mel: 2K F6
Sunday 20th August
KO 1PM

ASHBURTON
v
HEIDELBERG UNITED

Ashburton Park
Ashburton Mel: 60 F9
Sunday 20th August
KO 3PM

SANDRINGHAM
v
BOX HILL INTER

Darebin International Complex
Thornbury Mel: 31 A6
Tuesday 22nd August
KO 7.30PM

Women's Premier League SENIORS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	T
Ashburton	20	17	2	1	84	12	53	
Box Hill Inter	19	17	1	1	68	7	52	
Heidelberg United	19	16	1	2	82	17	49	
Cranbourne Comets WSC	19	10	4	5	45	17	34	
Keilor Park WSC	17	10	1	6	58	38	31	
Sandringham	19	8	5	6	34	22	29	
Bendigo Vipers WSC	19	9	1	9	38	32	28	
Preston Lions	19	5	1	13	16	58	16	
Eastern Lions	19	4	3	12	15	39	15	
Eltham North	18	3	2	13	13	55	11	
South Melbourne	20	3	1	16	23	77	10	
Brimbank WSC	20	0	2	18	7	109	2	

Round 2:
Box Hill Inter 2 (J Humble, A Lawless) Ashburton 1 (S Erenli) (HT: 1-1),
Brimbank 0
Sandringham 8 (E Avram 3, M De Boer 4, S Rogers) (HT: 0-3),
Eltham North 0
Cranbourne Comets 2 (J Black, R Lamb) (HT: 0-0),
Eastern Lions 0
Preston Lions 2 (S Lovett 2) (HT: 0-1),
South Melbourne 1 (N Cullen) Heidelberg United 6 (B Pannella 2, M Thornton 2, S Groenewald 2) (HT: 1-0),
Keilor Park 5 (M Camilleri 2, K Nicolaci 2, L Farrugia) Bendigo Vipers 4 (C Frankel, J Miller 3) (HT: 3-1)

Women's Premier League Reservers

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	T
Box Hill Inter	20	18	1	1	70	8	55	
Ashburton	20	17	2	1	84	12	53	
Heidelberg United	20	16	1	3	83	19	49	
Cranbourne Comets WSC	19	10	4	5	45	17	34	
Keilor Park WSC	18	11	1	6	63	42	34	
Sandringham	20	9	5	6	36	22	32	
Bendigo Vipers WSC	20	9	1	10	42	37	28	
Preston Lions	19	5	1	13	16	58	16	
Eastern Lions	20	4	3	13	15	40	15	
Eltham North	20	4	2	14	14	57	14	
South Melbourne	20	3	1	16	23	77	10	
Brimbank WSC	20	0	2	18	7	109	2	

Round 2 Catch-Up

Box Hill Inter 0
Ashburton 3,
Brimbank 0
Sandringham 17,
Eltham North 2
Cranbourne Comets 0,
Eastern Lions 4
Preston Lions 0,
South Melbourne 0
Heidelberg United 3,
Keilor Park 0
Bendigo Vipers 8

Monday 14 August

From Russia With Love

It is a long way from the quiet streets of Altona Meadows to the heart of Europe. But for 18-year-old soccer star Amy Jackson, Russia is the destination of her dream to compete at the 2006 under 20 women's World Cup this month.

Jackson, winner of the Don Deeble Award for 2005-06, is the sole Victorian representative in a team national team of 21, with most players emanating from New South Wales and Queensland.

But home state differences will turn into national green and gold pride when the World Cup begins on 17 August in Russia.

With only days remaining until the first ball is kicked, Jackson is raring to go.

"I'm just really excited about it. I'm ready to go," she said.

"It's going to be a once in a lifetime experience."

Jackson recently returned from a training camp in Bundaberg, where the Australian team was put through its paces for the final time before making the trip to Europe.

It was an intense week-long camp which included up to three training sessions each day, with practice matches in between.

"It was hectic. I think they were trying to replicate what they did with the Socceroos, training really hard and then tapering off when the competition gets closer," Jackson said.

But on her return to Melbourne Jackson continued to work hard, linking with the Victorian Institute of Sport for extra skills and fitness work ahead of her biggest individual challenge to date.

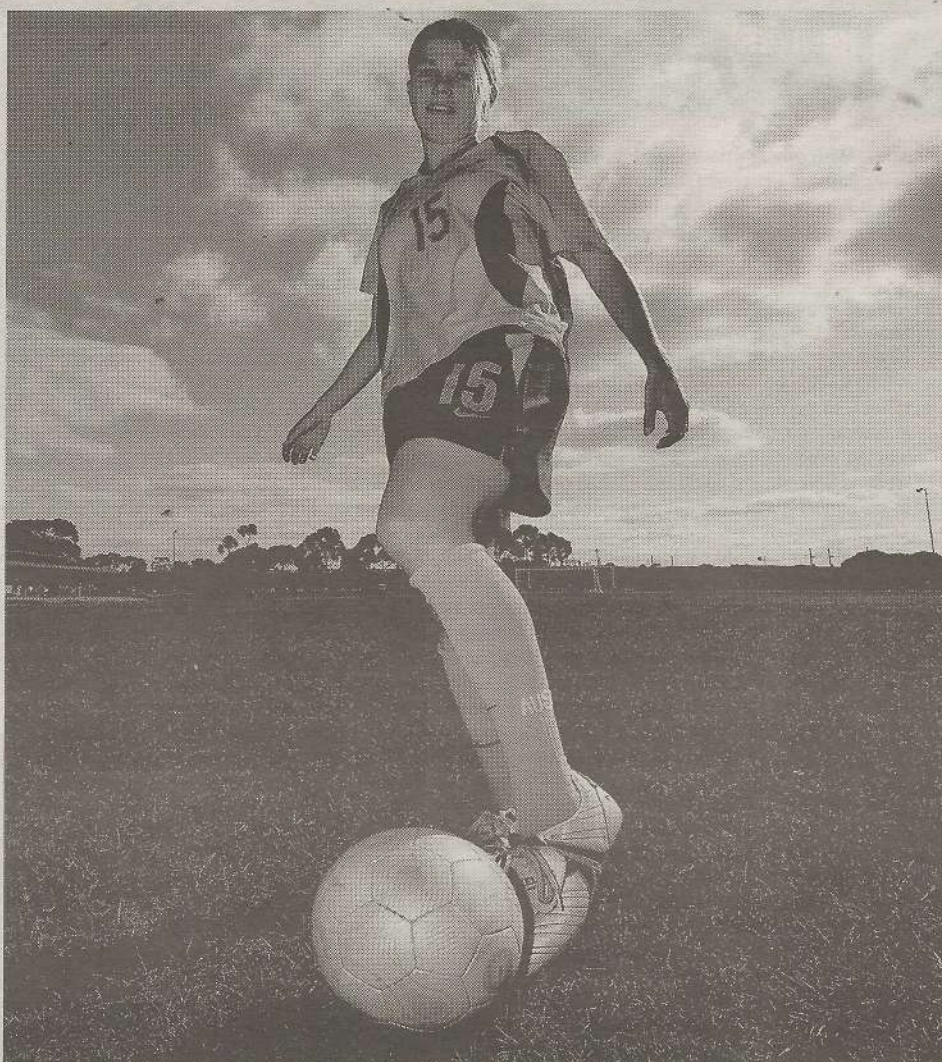
Jackson was informed of her spot in the final squad just before the Bundaberg camp, ending a nervous wait from when the Australians qualified for the World Cup earlier this year.

"The day I found out was very nerve-wracking, but when the call came I was ecstatic," she said.

Jackson had become an integral part of the history-making qualification by being part of the first Australian under 20 team to contest the World Cup by qualifying through the Asian Confederation.

The Young Matildas defeated Japan 3-2 in a thrilling playoff to decide the third and final place for the Cup. Overall, Jackson was pleased with her output throughout the qualification process, despite less than expected game time.

"When I was put on I think I did the job I had to do, but it was just unfortunate I didn't get a bit more game time," she said.



Young Matilda Amy Jackson in the Aussie colours flying the flag for Victoria as she is the only representative from the State

"I'm hoping to work for more game time in Russia. It's one of my personal aims. It's motivated me to work even harder."

Despite being ranked 15th in the world, the Young Matildas are planning to make as big an impression on the tournament as the Socceroos did a few months

ago.

Australia's first match is against New Zealand on 17 August, followed by fixtures against Brazil and host country Russia.

"We're a really tight knit group, which is good, and I think that's going to play a big part when we go away," Jackson said.

"We're really hoping to do well over there. We're quietly confident."

On a personal level, Jackson is planning to use the World Cup as a chance to prove she has what it takes to graduate to the senior ranks in the next few years.

"It's the big step that I've got to take and the opportunity I have to seize if I want to go anywhere in the near future," she said.

"When I get my chance I really have to make the most of it. Even if I come off the bench I have to be the player that makes the difference."

"I've been training really hard and I'm hoping, given the chance, to show them what I can do."

In other exciting news, Jackson recently picked up a rare sponsorship with Spanish boot manufacturer Kelme, worn by the likes of Real Madrid star Raul Bravo.

By Adrian Geddia

Photo by Ray Pollanen

Reproduced with the kind permission of the Star Newspaper.

3rd Annual Total Girl Tournament

IT'S ON AGAIN! Australia's biggest and best girls soccer tournament. Over 800 players and 3,000 people from three states attended in 2006 making the tournament an outstanding success. Almost all participating teams have committed for 2007 with many intending to bring extra teams. Organisers are thus planning for over 1,000 players to attend in 2007 confirming the Total Girl Tournament as the largest soccer tournament for girls in Australia. The tournament is played on the one site so an exciting carnival atmosphere is created for all attending the weekend.

Total Girl Magazine is the number one National Magazine for young girls and is the naming rights sponsor of the tournament. They promote the tournament through their magazine and on their website which creates a high level of interest amongst girls. Total Girl Magazine also provide colour posters to Clubs to promote the tournament and to assist Clubs in recruiting girls for the season ahead. A free Total Girl showbag full of goodies is provided free to each participant on arrival at the tournament.

Football Federation Victoria and Football Federation Australia are strong supporters and promoters of the tournament. They will be in attendance to provide lots of information on girls soccer and the many opportunities that exist for the girls.

FORMAT

- **Girls Only** - The girls appreciate having a tournament just for them and this is the strength of the Total Girl Tournament.

- **Club based** - The tournament is for Club teams rather than Representative teams. This allows the average Club player to experience a big tournament

atmosphere and encourages increased participation by girls.

- **7 a side format** - This provides extra space and touches to players making it easier for Clubs to incorporate less experienced players into their squads. Squad sizes of 10 players are recommended.

- **Under 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 & 16** - Each age group will most likely have 2 divisions of 8 teams each.

- **Round Robin** - Each team plays the other teams in their division.

- **Trophies** - are provided to the winning teams.

- **Referees** - qualified referees are provided for each match.

- **Match Balls** - specially designed tournament match balls are provided for each match and are also available for sale as souvenirs.

DATES

The weekend of the 24th & 25th March, 2007 was chosen to maintain the tournament as a pre-season tournament but to avoid:

- Queens Birthday long weekend 10th to 12th March
- School Holidays commencing 31st March
- Easter 7th to 10th April

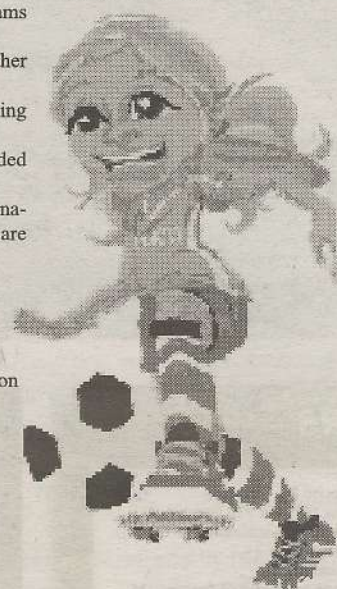
COST

Due to sponsorship and the generous support of the local community, including over 100 volunteers, the

cost is kept to a very reasonable \$25 per player for the weekend.

For more information please contact Bryan McCormick tournament coordinator:

Email: bgmccormick@bigpond.com.
Ph: 0419 336618



Issue #27

THE TASTE OF THAI
WITH THE SPICE OF
PORT MELBOURNE



Venables makes a Return

LONDON, August 11- Former England boss Terry Venables has been named as the new assistant manager to England head coach Steve McClaren.

Venables became the manager of Spanish giants Barcelona in 1984 and has coached Leeds and Tottenham Hotspur. Earlier in his career he also had spells in charge of Crystal Palace and Queens Park Rangers.

His international coaching history includes his time in charge of the Australian national team and as England manager from 1994 to 1996. The time he spent as England boss saw him take the team to the Euro 1996 semi-finals.

"I feel wonderful to be involved again, it is a great privilege. I was asked and I was very interested from the word go," remarked Venables.

He added, "I can lend my experience and leadership qualities to Steve and make his job easier."

"I am not looking to be a rival. I am looking to help Steve."

Ayala's Ultimatum

VALENCIA, Aug 11 - Valencia's unhappy Argentinean Roberto Ayala has issued an ultimatum to the Spanish side.

The player is seeking to leave the club after a breakdown in contract negotiations, and has declared Villarreal as his preferred destination.

Valencia has already turned down one bid from their La Liga rivals, but Ayala's agent has insisted that he will not play again for the side.

"For us, the situation is clear," explained agent Gustavo Mascardi.

"Valencia have to allow Ayala to leave, or else he'll simply see out the last year of his contract without playing. I'm going to meet with Valencia's directors, because I do not understand their motives for rejecting Villarreal's offer."

"Ayala's desire is to go to Villarreal."

Rooney Gets Picked On

MANCHESTER, Aug 11- Wayne Rooney has suggested that referees may have it out for him.

The fiery Manchester United and England striker has been at the centre of a number of high profile incidents in his two years since joining United. Most recently, he was sent off in the World Cup quarterfinal against Portugal and just last week faced the same fate in a friendly with Porto.

Speaking at the release of his biography, Rooney suggested that the blame lay with headline-grabbing officials.

"Possibly I am getting picked on," he said.

"Referees get a lot of headlines with some decisions they make. I am not having a go at referees but that is the way the game has gone. Sometimes, referees have to take the consequences of that."

"I play football the way I see it. It happens with Cristiano Ronaldo as well. He gets a lot of unfair decisions against him. The refs are trying to grab headlines too much rather than ref a game."

Tevez Set to Leave Brazil

SAO PAULO, Aug 11- Corinthians midfielder Javier Mascherano left practice after an altercation on Thursday, which in combination with speculation surrounding team-mate Carlos Tevez's future, further complicates the personnel situation for Brazil's richest club.

The Argentina international was the victim of a hard foul by Marcelinho Carioca in a scrimmage, and after complaining to the head coach Geninho and shoving Marcelinho, Mascherano left the club's training facilities.

Both players will be suspended for Sunday's match against Figueirense, Geninho announced.

The altercation comes on top of further speculation that Mascherano's Argentina team-mate Carlos Tevez is bound for Europe.

The two Argentineans have found it difficult to settle in Brazil, with Tevez recently being involved in a harrowing altercation with some of the club's hardcore fans. Tevez hinted of a move after the incident.

"My daughter Florencia is very scared and my wife is too. They are very sad. Things which the Corinthians supporters did, are not easy to forget. If I was single, I would be in Brazil for one more year. But I have to talk with my family."

Having lost 7 of their last 9 matches, Corinthians are struggling in the Brazilian first division, currently sitting dead last in the championship with just 13 points from 14

Beckham Not In England Plans

LONDON, Aug 12- New England manager Steve McClaren has made a bold declaration, saying that former captain David Beckham does not feature in his future plans.

McClaren has named his squad for Wednesday's friendly with Greece, with Beckham's omission joined by Sol Campbell and David James.

"It was a football decision and I think everybody around the country and in the FA respected the decision I made. It is a new beginning," explained McClaren.

"I'm planning for the future and David was not included in that. I want to take the team in a different direction."

"I've got the job and I want to approach it my way, make my decisions and live or die by them."

"My mind was focused on the job in hand and I wanted to pick a squad for the future. David has been a fantastic player and captain for England but I've decided to move on from that."

"I want to talk about the future and the younger players who will take us through to 2008."

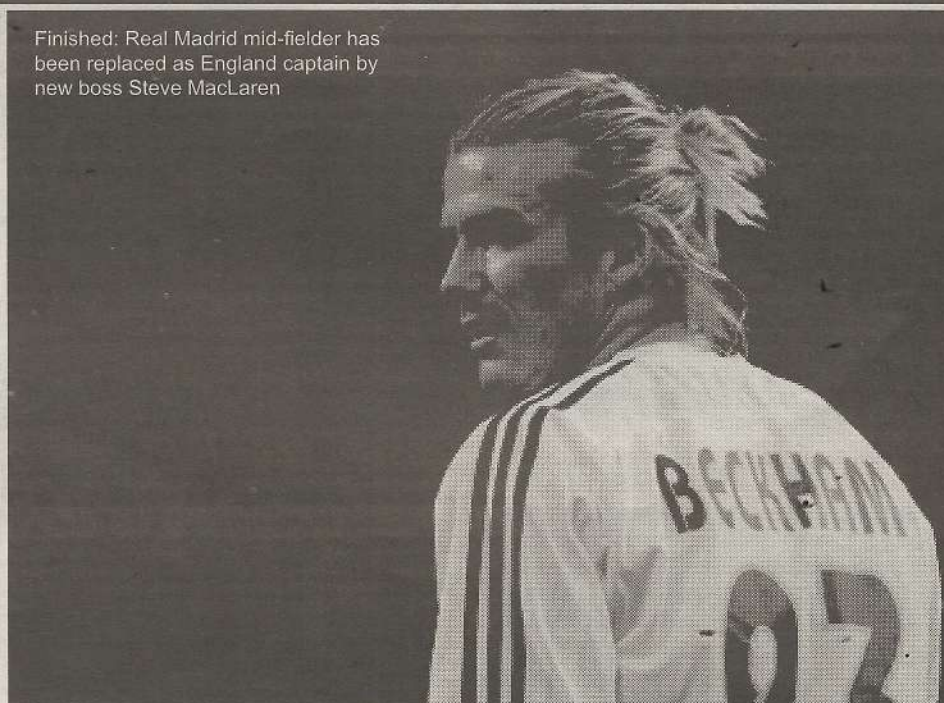
"There is some great talent coming through. I like width, pace and penetration. That's what I'm looking towards."

"It was a difficult phone call to make because of the relationship I have with him."

"We have respect for each other. It was always going to be a tough decision — but one I had to make."

"I'm a great believer in development of young players and these lads deserve it. I want to keep a nucleus of players for 2008 and that opens it up for all the younger lads coming through."

Finished: Real Madrid mid-fielder has been replaced as England captain by new boss Steve McClaren



"It's a clean sheet of paper for everyone. We want a winning side and that's what we are trying to achieve."

McClaren has stopped short of completely ruling out Beckham from future internationals by declaring the former skipper would fight for his place.

"Becks has pride and was disappointed but he's

going to fight for his place. He will perform as best as he can for Real and try to get in."

Beckham has responded by refusing to confirm his retirement from the international arena.

"I'm proud to have played for England for 10 years and my passion for representing my country is as strong as ever," confirmed the midfielder.

Camoranesi Backs Down From Row



TURIN, Aug 12 - Juventus and Italy midfielder Mauro Camoranesi has backed down in his dispute with the fallen giants.

As reported yesterday, Camoranesi is unhappy with the Bianconeri's decision to backtrack on a proposed deal with Lyon, but has confirmed he will play in the upcoming Serie B campaign.

"I will play in Serie B, although I would like to leave Italy," admitted the recent World Cup winner.

"I feel a bit frustrated because I knew I could be trans-

ferred to Lyon and I was hoping that would prove to be my next destination."

When asked for his thoughts on Juve's relegation as part of the Calciopoli scandal, the Argentinean born Camoranesi revealed his anger.

"I feel angry about the fact that Juventus were the only club to be relegated to Serie B."

"I also don't agree with the Italian Football Federation giving the Scudetto to Inter even though they finished third."

"When we played against the Nerazzurri you could see that they were always very scared of our ability."

The player's agent has confirmed that his client would honour his contract with the Turin club and would not look for alternate means to get out of the agreement.

"We aren't going to get into a battle with them [Juventus] or take legal action, as some people have written," confirmed agent Sergio Fortunato.

"I will again underline that Mauro doesn't want to play in Serie B, he hasn't got the right motivation to do so after winning the World Cup."

"However, if [Coach Didier] Deschamps and the club confirm that they want to keep him then Camoranesi will respect his contract — and play in Serie B."

Del Piero Speaks Out On Capello

TURIN, Aug 11- Juventus forward Alessandro Del Piero has admitted that he is pleased to be heading into the new season under the stewardship of Didier Deschamps, rather than Fabio Capello.

The Juventus icon endured a difficult spell under 'Don Fabio' during the tactician's two years at the club, in which the forward was largely confined to playing second fiddle to Zlatan Ibrahimovic and David Trezeguet. "The last two years [under Capello] were very tough," admitted Del Piero.

"However, now I can return to playing football with the love that I have for it."

"The era of terror in training under Capello has now gone. After all, you can't treat a 30-year-old like an 18-year-old."

"New boss Didier Deschamps, he was an excellent teammate and he will now be an excellent coach."

When questioned on his decision to remain with the Turin giants for the upcoming Serie B campaign, the player explained that it was a decision made quite some time ago.



said — need important players to get back up."

"The Agnelli family deserves this, as do the fans and the new directors."

"Are those players who have left traitors? I respect the decisions of those who have preferred to change shirts."

"I already decided to stay a year ago after a few differences of opinion with the Coach. I listened to my heart."

"Today, after winning the World Cup, I have understood that Juventus — as Pavel Nedved

Internacional Get One Leg Up

SÃO PAULO, Aug 10 -Internacional stunned reigning champions São Paulo, 2-1 at Estádio Morumbi in the first leg of the 2006 Copa Libertadores final on Wednesday night.

The match started a very physical encounter between the Brazilian rivals and São Paulo were dealt a blow in just the 10th minute as Josué was sent off for throwing an elbow on Rafael Sóbis in an aerial challenge.

The visitors nearly made that advantage pay off in the 18th minute as Jorge Wagner came up from the back on the left and fired in on goal, but Rogério Ceni made a fine save.

However, the man advantage would last only until the 38th minute when Inter's Fabinho was shown red by referee Jorge Larrión after the fourth official caught him striking Souza with his left arm.

With the numbers level, Inter came out the better side in the second half and took a surprise lead when striker Sóbis took the ball in the middle, kept his balance after turning inside Fabinho, and fired home past Rogério Ceni for the opener on 54 minutes.

Eight minutes later, Sóbis struck again on the rebound after Rogério Ceni made a spectacular save off of a point-blank shot by Tinga, seemingly putting the tie out of reach.

After Sóbis missed a great chance for a hat-trick, São Paulo pulled a goal back in the 76th minute as Edcarlos' near-post header from a cross by Souza made it 2-1.

Substitute Richarlison came very close to an equalizer later on when he whistled a shot wide from inside the area, but the visitors will take the advantage back to Porto Alegre for next week's second leg.



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Monday 14 August

OVERSEAS TRANSFER GOSSIP with George Egonidis

We'll get the obligatory Ashley Cole update out of the way early this week.

With any luck, this ongoing and increasingly tedious transfer saga will be resolved this week, after Chelsea upped its bid to £23m and Cole magnanimously offered to forego a £1m bonus owed to him by his current employer. But whether or not this opens the door for **William Gallas** to get his desired move away from Stamford Bridge is still unclear, with **Jose Mourinho** insisting that Gallas will remain a Chelsea player, and that he is prepared to forgive and forget after the player failed to show up for a pre-season trip and was fined £80,000. "I'm always looking for different challenges so to have an unhappy player is also a new experience for me," said The Special One.

At Fulham, the stand-off between manager Chris Coleman and disgruntled midfielder **Steed Malbranque** gets bitterer by the week. Coleman is threatening to cancel Malbranque's contract because the 26-year-old is insisting on having an operation on his troublesome groin which will sideline him for three months. Fulham would prefer he undergo a quick-fix procedure, which would not jeopardise their plans to ship him out before the transfer window closes on August 31. Malbranque has already knocked back a move to Middlesbrough, and a three-month injury lay-off would kill off any interest West Ham or Aston Villa are showing in him at the moment. One thing is clear though; he has played his last game under Coleman who stated during the week, "As long as I am picking the team he won't be playing."

England midfielder **Owen Hargreaves**' prospects of securing a long sought after move to the English Premiership took a step forward this week with news that Sir Alex Ferguson is considering a bid to bring him to Manchester. It's a curious move in some respects, with United already having signed Hargreaves' main rival for the holding midfield role in the England team, **Michael Carrick**. And **Michael Ballack**'s summer transfer to Chelsea complicates matters further, as it's de-

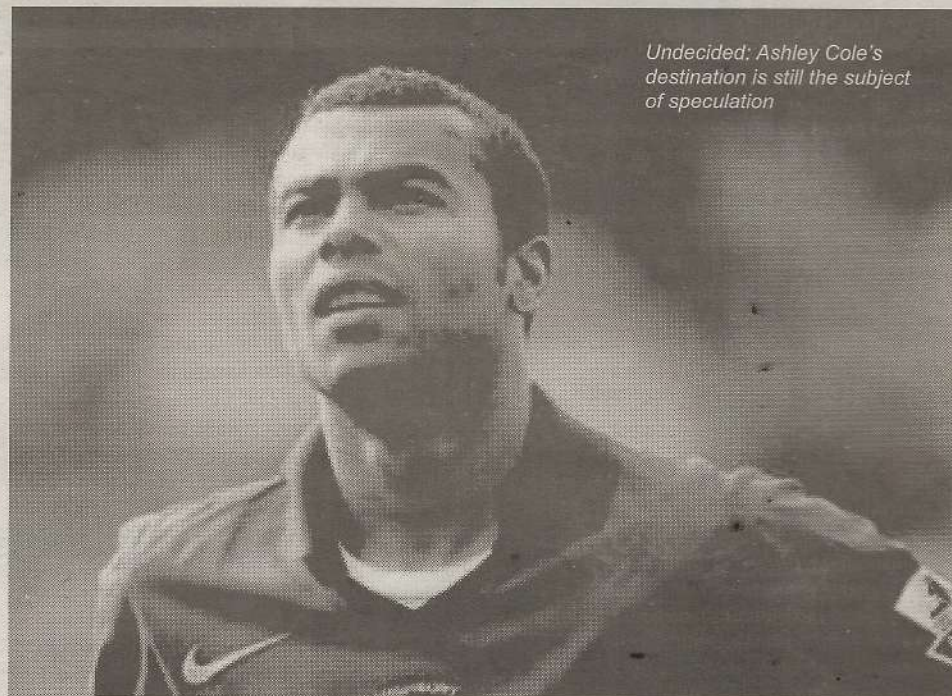
bateable whether the German giants would agree to move on another key midfielder so soon after losing their veteran talisman.

Also in the frame for United is Villarreal's **Marcos Senna**, whom the Spanish club is prepared to sell for around £4m, while Ferguson's interest in Lyon's **Mahamadou Diarra** has resurfaced this week as another possible alternative. United's target seems to hinge on whether or not they will bid for a striker to replace **Ruud van Nistelrooy**, with Internazionale's Brazilian, Adriano, and Atletico Madrid's **Fernando Torres** their major targets. Should they pursue either, they're unlikely to have the funds available to bring in Diarra or Hargreaves. But if Torres and Adriano prove out of reach, they may choose to spend up big on a second midfielder and pass up on 30-year-old Senna, who is seen by some as a back up signing for the coming season.

French star **Franck Ribery** has had a major change of heart this week, stating that he would now prefer to stay with Marseille, after earlier agitating for a move to Lyon or abroad. The news is a double blow for Arsenal, who had high hopes of signing the 23-year-old, and are also contending with the possible departure of **Jose Antonio Reyes** to Real Madrid. None of this, however, is of concern to **Thierry Henry**, who has categorically stated that the loss of Ashley Cole and Reyes or the failure to capture Ribery will not affect the Gunners as much as losing **Cesc Fabregas** may have earlier in the summer. He said losing Fabregas, who rejected the overtures of Real Madrid, would have been a "massive" blow to his team. "Cesc is the heart of the team right now. When he is in tune, we are in tune. I haven't seen that before in someone so young", said Henry.

And in brief...

► Middlesbrough continues its chase of Manchester City's Sylvain Distin, with another £4.5m bid lodged this week.



Undecided: Ashley Cole's destination is still the subject of speculation

► Portsmouth and Newcastle will battle it out for Inter Milan striker Obafemi Martins, who is surplus to requirements after Inter this week signed Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Hernan Crespo. Martins will cost around £9.5m.

► Newcastle and Liverpool are still tracking Dirk Kuyt of Feyenoord.

► Everton may try to bring in Manchester City forward Antoine Sibierski on a free transfer.

► Blackburn is close to signing defender Andre Ooijer from PSV Eindhoven.

► Tottenham's Andy Reid is a £3m target for Sunderland, who may also confirm the return of former favourite Kevin Phillips this week.

Tottenham are favourites to sign Argentine World Cup defender Roberto Ayala from Valencia and are attempting to bring back Mido - three months after cutting their ties with him at the end of his loan period from AS Roma.

This week's major moves:

Hayden Foxe [unattached - Leeds]

David James [Man City - Portsmouth] Undisclosed

Tomasz Kuszczak [West Brom - Man Utd] Loan

Hatem Trabelsi [Ajax - Man City] Free

Sol Campbell [Arsenal - Portsmouth] Free

Amady Faye [Newcastle - Charlton] £2m

Djimi Traore [Liverpool - Charlton] £2m

Zlatan Ibrahimovic [Juventus - Internazionale] £16.7m

Hernan Crespo [Chelsea - Internazionale] Loan

Socceroos To Meet Paraguay In Brisbane



19th Ranked: Paraguay is a formidable opponent despite bowing out of the World Cup after a disappointing tournament

Football Federation Australia has announced in conjunction with the Queensland Government that the Qantas Socceroos will play 19th ranked nation Paraguay in an important preparation match leading into Australia's final AFC Asian Cup qualifier. The PowerAde Cup match will be played on Saturday 7 October at Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane.

Queensland's Sports Minister Tom Barton and FFA chief executive John O'Neill AO jointly announced Queensland had secured the rights to the match, which is four days before the Qantas Socceroos final Asian Cup qualifying match against Bahrain in Sydney. "This game is against another 2006 World Cup finalist ranked in the top 20 in the world, so it will be a vital match in Australia's Asian Cup preparations," said Mr. Barton.

"This comes hot on the heels of the State Government's recently announced \$500,000 development package for junior football throughout Queensland.

"Local football fans will savour a contest against a

strong international power and a large contingent of our World Cup Socceroos are expected to play in this encounter."

FFA chief executive John O'Neill added, "The FFA has a significant ambition to take the Qantas Socceroos around Australia and we are delighted that Football and sports fans in Brisbane will host the Qantas Socceroos so soon after their World Cup campaign." The FFA's "Football Family" initiative will apply for the match, with grassroots players and supporters in Brisbane having the opportunity to pre-register for priority access to tickets at MyFootball.com.au, until August 25th.

"We are planning to host some events in October around the matches against Paraguay and Bahrain where there will be an opportunity to acknowledge some of our World Cup players," said Mr O'Neill.

"I'd like to thank the Queensland Government as well as Sport and Recreation Queensland for their support and enthusiasm to host the national team in Queensland."

Ironically the last time the Qantas Socceroos played in Brisbane was on 12 June 2000 against Paraguay, although it was played at the Gabba.

Paraguay was knocked out after the first round at the 2006 World Cup finals, losing 1-0 to both England and Sweden before finishing with a 2-0 win against Trinidad and Tobago.

Tickets are expected to go on sale to Australian sports fans in the first week of September following a priority sales period for the Football Family.

Young Roos Hold Argentina In SA Tour



The Qantas Young Socceroos has drawn its first international match of its South American tour, holding defending World Youth Champions Argentina at Arsenal Stadium in Buenos Aires Saturday.

The match finished scoreless, with the Qantas Young Socceroos defending brilliantly in the second half against a very good Argentina side.

Coach Ange Postecoglou praised the efforts of the players and said the performance was a step in the right direction, as they continue preparations for the AFC Youth Championships being held in India in October/November this year.

"The performance was excellent," said Postecoglou after the game. "I thought we controlled the game in the first half with our possession game. We knocked the ball around well, but just lacked that clinical finish in the final third of the pitch."

"We got tired as the second half wore on and became a little disjointed, but we defended very well."

Australia played strongly in the first half without creating too many chances against the well-organised Argentine defence.

Argentina should have grabbed the lead after 37 minutes, when they were presented with a gift opportunity but their striker spurned the chance, by directing his shot past Mitchell Langerak and also the left hand post.

Australia best chance of the first half came shortly af-

ter, when after three consecutive corners, Bruce Djite shot over the bar.

Langerak produced a glorious save in the 61st minute, to deny a goalbound effort from the edge of the box, as Argentina started to gain control of the match.

Australia's best chance of the half came in the 70th minute, as Cameron Watson shot over the bar direct from a free kick that was just outside the penalty box. The performance was even more meritorious, as the game was shown live around Argentina.

They next face Chile with two matches scheduled for the 12th and 14th in Santiago and Postecoglou acknowledges that they will need to keep improving.

"We have been here a week and feeling more comfortable with ourselves," said Postecoglou. "We are here to test ourselves against very good opposition and keep improving, which we have done so far."

"We will need to keep improving, as Chile has just returned from Ecuador, where they won a tournament featuring a number of South American countries. They will be a good test."

"It's all preparation for the AFC qualifiers later this year and these games will certainly help us."

Argentina 0

Australia 0

Match line-up: Mitchell Langerak (GK), Steve O'Dor, Peter Eleftherakis, Matt Spiranic, Shaun Ontong (Captain), James Downey, Nathan Burns (Robbie Kruse 60'), Evan Berger (Tarek Elrich 65'), Chris Grossman (Brad Porter 74'), Bruce Djite (Ben Vidaic 80'), Troy Hearfield (Cameron Watson 60')

Subs not used: Aleks Vrteski (gk), Ryan McGowan, Sebastian Ryall

Cautions: James Downey (25'), Shaun Ontong (65')

Thompson, Sarkies And Muscat Named For Kuwait Clash

Football Federation Australia has announced an 18-man squad which will play Kuwait in Wednesday's sold-out AFC Asian Cup qualifier at Aussie Stadium on Wednesday.

Head Coach Graham Arnold has selected a young squad with a blend of experience to represent Australia in a match which could secure the Qantas Socceroos a place at next year's AFC Asian Cup finals.

"It's a very important match and one which will play a vital role in our chances of qualifying for the Asian Cup," said Arnold.

"With Lebanon's unfortunate withdrawal there are less matches now and so each game becomes even more vital."

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"Kuwait can't be underestimated. They have been preparing in camp for some weeks now and they know that if they get something out of this match it could put them in a very good position to qualify for the finals." Arnold trimmed his 22-man training camp squad down to the final 18 after a three-day workout in Melbourne earlier this week.

Perth Glory's Stan Lazaridis withdrew from contention after being struck down with the flu for most of the week.

QANTAS SOCCEROOS SQUAD TO PLAY KUWAIT

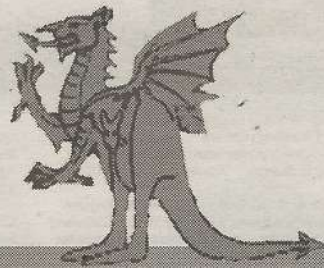
Clint Bolton (Sydney FC), Alex Brosque (Sydney FC), David Carney (Sydney FC), Steve Corica (Sydney FC), Alvin Ceccoli (Sydney FC), Travis Dodd (Adelaide United), Joel Griffiths (Newcastle Jets), Iain Fyfe (Sydney FC), Matthew McKay (Queensland Roar), Mark Milligan (Sydney FC), Kevin Muscat (Melbourne Victory), Stuart Musialik (Newcastle Jets), Jade North (Newcastle Jets), Sasho Petrovski (Sydney FC), Kristian Sarkies (Melbourne Victory), Archie Thompson (Melbourne Victory), Michael Valkanis (Adelaide United), Danny Vukovic (Central Coast Mariners)



Archie Thompson was selected alongside two of his Victory teammates

succeroo

a pom's home view



Steve McClaren has made his first significant decisions as England's manager "evolution not revolution" is his battle cry. He has introduced a new assistant manager, named a new captain and, controversially, left England's ex-captain absent from his first squad selection.

Terry Venables was unveiled as the new assistant manager. Venables was England coach between 1994 and 1996 and took them to the semi-finals of Euro 96. His skill in analysis, coaching and motivation resulted in some of England's best ever performances, including a famous 4-1 demolition of Holland. However, Venables' business dealings offered a constant distraction and he had to resign from the England position. While he might not be the most popular face amongst the FA, almost every player to have worked with him speaks highly of his ability and effectiveness. He will provide McClaren with the benefit of his knowledge and his presence and charisma will help re-ignited patriotic pride.

The new captaincy has been hotly debated with John Terry and Steven Gerrard as the main candidates. Terry has been named as captain, while Gerrard given the as the vice-captaincy. Terry is a great choice as the England captain, as he is for as a winning captain for Chelsea. Terry is always visibly vocal and has the advantage of being able to see the game's bigger picture from centre-half position.

I remember when John Terry debuted for England in 2003 against Serbia and Montenegro. I was in a London pub and turned to my drinking partner and bet him 20 pounds that Terry would captain England one day. I had had the benefit of watching Terry climb through the ranks of the Chelsea youth system and take the French International Frank Leboeuf's position as centre back to partner

to Marcel Desailly in the Chelsea squad then take the captaincy from him. My friend saw Terry as yet another capped player by Sven-Göran Eriksson to make an England debut. One year later, Terry was passed the captain's armband when Michael Owen was substituted in a game against Poland. Ten minutes as captain at the end of a game was not quite what either of us had envisaged as the bet. I offered double or quits of Terry becoming Beckham's permanent replacement, but he wisely turned it down and paid up.

The biggest stance by McClaren and probably the most controversial is dropping David Beckham from his first squad. McClaren stated that he was dropped because he was too slow, and England is now looking for quicker wide players who can go past defenders. Stewart Downing, Aaron Lennon, Kieran Richardson and Shaun Wright-Phillips have been named as the England wingers in the new squad. McClaren denied that the Beckham decision is not just to underline the difference between Sven-Göran Eriksson and himself. But there was no doubt that Beckham's special status was hindering the development of the team. He didn't have a very good World Cup but not many of the squad did. Beckham, however, is not a bad player. His form for Real Madrid is consistently good. To drop him from the squad seems a little extreme.

I was not enthused by McClaren's appointment as England Manager but he's made a couple of key decisions with Venables and Terry that can only be good for England. Beckham may not be England's number one midfielder but is certainly in the top ten and worthy of a chance to fight for his position.

By Richard Sucksmith

Steve McBeckham: Beckham's Great Escape - From England via Germany



TARTAN TALK with Nic Townsend



When Celtic played Chelsea last Wednesday, it was more than just another preseason friendly. It was the Scottish champions against the English champions, in a match dubbed the 'Battle of Britain'. It ended 1-1. Some optimists might point to this score line and claim that football in Scotland is on par with England. But the cynics (and realists) will point out it was only a preseason friendly. And because it was only a friendly, it doesn't do much for Scotland's UEFA co-efficient. In fact it's probably even lower this week as two Scottish teams suffered demoralising defeats in European fixtures.

Prior to last Wednesday, both Hearts and Gretna had plenty of reasons to be optimistic. Due to wealthy benefactors at both clubs, each had suddenly found success. Last season Hearts finished second, breaking the Old Firm duopoly, while Gretna won promotion to First Division, their second promotion in as many years. The season ended with the two sides meeting each other in the Scottish Cup final. Hearts won on penalties. However seeing as they had already qualified for Champions League, just making it to the final meant Gretna qualified for the UEFA Cup.

This season had started out well too. Last weekend Hearts defeated Celtic 2-1, while Gretna hammered Hamilton 6-0 in their first ever First Division match. Hearts had breezed past the second qualifying round of Champions League, and with AEK Athens their next opponent, had a very realistic chance of making it to the group stages. Gretna also thought themselves fortunate



Stilian Petrov still finds the back of the net for Celtic

to be drawn again Irish side Derry in their first UEFA Cup match. Their good form, coupled with lucky draws, meant the two clubs went into their respective ties with confidence.

But 180 minutes later, both were brought back to earth. On Wednesday Hearts played AEK in Edinburgh. Despite being outplayed for most of the match, in the 89th minute Hearts were up 1-0. If they could have held on, they would have gone to Greece next week excruciating close to the group stages. But in the final minutes AEK scored two goals, to win 2-1. There is still the second leg to play, but having conceded two away goals, it's going to take an extraordinary effort on behalf of the Jambos. 24 hours later, Gretna was also the first to score.

Unfortunately Derry scored the next 5, to inflict

one of the heaviest defeats any Scottish side has ever suffered in Europe.

In hindsight both Hearts and Gretna did well to reach this point. The fact that Gretna, a second division side, even qualified was a minor miracle. Hearts have come much closer to the group stages than at any other time in their history. And even if we assume they won't overhaul their deficit in Athens, they'll at least have the consolation of a place in the UEFA Cup, so their European venture is far from over.

But morale at Tynecastle won't be improved after their 0-0 draw against Falkirk on Saturday. Despite the result putting them on the top of the table, it didn't stop fans from booing the team off the pitch. Nor is owner Vladimir Romanov likely to be impressed.

Considering he is often critical of the team when they win, he must be livid after a loss. Manager Valdas Ivanauskas can't be feeling too secure either, working for a man nicknamed 'Vlad the Impaler' for his habit of suddenly and quite dramatically sacking managers and administrators.

In the other SPL matches over the weekend, Inverness CT drew against Hibs 0-0, meaning both clubs are yet to win a match this season.

Kilmarnock v Dundee United also ended in a 0-0 draw. In fact goals were scarce last weekend, with the only scores coming from Celtic's 2-0 win over St. Mirren, and Aberdeen's 2-0 win over Motherwell.

The match to watch next weekend, will easily be Rangers v Hearts. As a game between two premiership contenders, the result will tell us a lot about where each team is at. Rangers haven't really been tested yet, and Paul Le Guen is still tinkering with his side. It looks like troubled defender Fernando Ricksen will be loaned to Zenit St.

Petersburg, where he'll be reunited with former manager Dick Advocaat.

Marvin Andrews and Jose-Karl Pierre-Panfan are also expected to leave.

As for Hearts, a win at Ibrox could turn their season around again, just as quickly and suddenly as it went pear-shaped this week. As in politics, a week is a long time in football.

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Monday 14 August



JUNIOR LEAGUES



MILO Boys S/E 16 Super League: Round 12: South Eastern Piranhas 1, Bentleigh Greens 1, Knox City 6, Oakleigh 1, South Melbourne 3, Whitehorse 0, Southern Stars 4, Glen Waverley 0, Bulleen 7, Doncaster Rovers JSC 0

MILO Boys S/E 15 Super League: Round 15: Kingston City Bye, South Melbourne 2, Box Hill Inter 1, Gippsland Soccer League 1, Noble Park 0, Beaumaris 1, Doncaster Rovers JSC 0, Whitehorse 0, Bulleen 1

MILO Boys S/E 14 Super League: Round 12: Box Hill Inter 7, Chelsea 0, Knox City 3, Beaumaris 0, South Melbourne 7, Whitehorse 1, Bulleen 7, Endeavour Utd 3, Doncaster Rovers JSC 1, Manningham 3

MILO Boys S/E 13 Super League: Round 10: Baxter 0, Bulleen 3, Mornington 1, Knox City 0, Nunawading City 3, Beaumaris 1, Box Hill Inter 1, Monash City 0, Dandenong City 1, Gippsland Soccer League 1

MILO Boys N/W 16 Super League: Round 13: Sydenham Park Bye, Whitehorse Stallions 3, Hoppers Crossing 1, Preston Lions 6, North City Lions 2, Essendon Royals 3, Melbourne Knights 2, Brimbank 1, Green Gully 12

MILO Boys N/W 15 Super League: Round 15: Brimbank Bye, Moreland United 0, Fawkner 5, Epping City 0, Kellor Park 3, Melbourne Knights 0, Green Gully 2, Essendon Royals 3, Altona East 1

MILO Boys N/W 14 Super League: Round 15: Fawkner 3, Williamstown 0, Brimbank 1, North Coburg Utd 4, Melbourne Knights 0, Kellor Park 1, Preston Lions 0, Green Gully 2, Albion-Wodonga 3, Bendigo Amateur Soccer League 1

MILO Boys N/W 13 Super League: Round 15: Fawkner 1, Hoppers Crossing JSC 1, Altona Magic 1, Preston Lions 1, Epping City 0, Kellor Park 2, Melbourne Knights 1, Green Gully 1, Essendon Royals 6, Bundoora 2

MILO Boys Metro 18 Blue: Round 10: Port Melbourne JSC 2, Green Gully 0, Bulleen 3, Oakleigh 2, Brunswick City 2, Doncaster Rovers JSC 0

MILO Boys Metro 18 Orange: Round 3: Bye, Glen Waverley, Springvale City 10, Rosebud 0, Mornington 1, Mooroolbark 3, Langwarrin 8, Brighton JSC 1, Seaford United JSC 7, Sherbrooke Rangers 1

MILO Boys Metro 18 Purple: Round 15: Gisborne Bye, Northcote City Bye, Preston Lions 0, Essendon Royals 3, Bundoora 3, St Albans 1, Kellor Park 3, Brimbank 2

MILO Boys Metro 18 Yellow: Round 15: Bye, Westvale, Mornington 2, Glen Eira 1, Brighton JSC 3, Brimbank Park 1, Berwick Kings 1, Berwick City 1, Eastern Lions Bye

MILO Boys South 16 A: Round 15: Berwick City 1, Doveton 4, Bentleigh Greens 3, Dandenong City 0, Brighton JSC 2, Sandringham City 2, Baxter 0, Springvale City 2, Beaumaris 1, Langwarrin 0

MILO Boys South 16 B: Round 15: Peninsula Bye, Doveton 5, Carrum Utd 2, Chelsea 1, Beaumaris 1, Rowville Eagles 5, Sandringham City A 1, Sandringham City B 2, Dandenong Sparrows 1

MILO Boys South 15 A: Round 13: Mornington 0, Dandenong Thunder 4, Hampton Park Utd 2, Seaford Utd 1, Cranbourne Comets 9, Sandringham City 2, Springvale White Eagles 3, Brighton JSC 0, Berwick City 3, Langwarrin 2

MILO Boys South 15 B: Round 15: Endeavour United 3, Rosebud 0, Bentleigh Greens 4, Beaumaris 1, Brighton JSC 2, Baxter 4, Berwick City 8, Mornington A 2, Dandenong City 4, Langwarrin 0

MILO Boys South 14 A: Round 15: Langwarrin 0, Berwick City 0, Springvale White Eagles 7, Beaumaris 0, Mornington 4, Sandringham City 2, Baxter 0, Brighton 11, Lyndale Utd 3, Hampton Park Utd 4

MILO Boys South 14 B: Round 15: Frankston Pines 4, Mornington 0, Cranbourne Comets 2, Dandenong City 2, Brighton JSC 14, Sandringham City 0, White Star Dandenong 0, Peninsula 8, Bye, Langwarrin

MILO Boys South 13 A: Round 15: Langwarrin 1, Berwick City 0, Bentleigh Greens 3, Frankston Pines 1, Doveton 2, Dandenong Thunder 5, Endeavour Utd 0, Brighton JSC 4, Mornington 3, Hampton Park Utd 0

MILO Boys South 13 B: Round 17: Phillip Island Hampton Park Utd, East Bentleigh, Lyndale Utd, Carrum Utd, Sandringham City, Beaumaris, Brighton JSC, Seaford Utd, Berwick City

MILO Boys South 13 C: Round 15: Springvale White Eagles Bye, Seaford Utd 4, Berwick City 0, Brighton 0, Sandringham City 1, Baxter 1, Cranbourne Comets 2, Beaumaris 5, Langwarrin 4

MILO Boys South 12 A: Round 15: Langwarrin 0, Berwick City 13, Bentleigh Greens 1, Dandenong City 5, Brighton JSC 1, Sandringham City 1, Mornington 0, Peninsula 0, Beaumaris 9, Hampton Park Utd 1

MILO Boys South 12 B: Round 15: Beaumaris Bye, Mornington 1, Hampton 1, Chelsea 2, Seaford Utd 3, Berwick City 0, Sandringham City 0, Cranbourne Comets 0, Brighton 0

MILO Boys South 12 C: Round 15: Rosebud Bye, Seaford Utd, Baxter, Sandringham City 1, Brighton JSC 1, Mornington 5, Langwarrin 0

MILO Boys South 12 D: Round 15: Bentleigh Greens Bye, Keysborough JSC 1, Bye 0, Peninsula 1, Hampton 0, Endeavour Hills 0, Casey Panthers 1, Lyndale Utd 2, Harrisfield Hurricanes 14

MILO Boys South 11 Kangaroos Green: Round 15: Cranbourne Comets Bye, Berwick City 1, Dandenong City 1, Mornington 3, Sandringham City 0, Heatherton Utd 1, Brighton 5, Beaumaris 9, Hampton 0

MILO Boys South 11 Kangaroos Purple: Round 15: Noble Park Bye, Mornington 2, Rosebud 2, Seaford Utd 3, Peninsula 0, Sandringham City 2, Dandenong Thunder 0, Springvale White Eagles, Langwarrin

MILO Boys South 11 Joys Blue: Round 12: Endeavour Utd Bye, Sandringham City 1, Berwick City 2, Carrum Utd 0, Beaumaris 2, Doveton 1, Baxter 1, Dandenong City 0, Brighton 4

MILO Boys South 11 Joys Red: Round 15: Langwarrin, Berwick City, Mornington 3, Beaumaris 2, Brighton B 1, Keysborough 1, Sandringham City 3, Brighton A 0, Hampton 0, Hampton Park Utd 5

MILO Boys East 16 A: Round 10: Bulleen Bye, Ashburton 1, Manningham 8, East Bentleigh 0, Riversdale Raiders 2, Doncaster Rovers JSC 0, Glen Waverley 7, Sherbrooke Rangers 0, Nunawading City 11

MILO Boys East 16 B: Round 13: Boroondara Lions 14, Glen Eira 0, North Caulfield 2, Eastern Lions 2, Mooroolbark Bye, Richmond Bye, Boroondara 6, Manningham 4

MILO Boys East 15 A: Round 15: Knox City Bye, South Melbourne 1, Boroondara 3, Bulleen 2, South Springvale 0, North Caulfield 2, Manningham 0, Richmond 2, Doncaster Rovers JSC 3

MILO Boys East 15 B: Round 12: East Bentleigh 0, Glen Waverley 5, Brandon Park 3, Boroondara 2, Westvale 2, Nunawading City 3, Croydon City Arrows JSC 1, Eastern Lions 1, Doncaster Rovers JSC 1, North Caulfield 2

MILO Boys East 15 C: Round 15: Mooroolbark 1, Port Melbourne JSC 7, Richmond Bye, Boroondara Lions 1, Ashburton 2, Sherbrooke Rangers 0, Caulfield Utd 6, Manningham 1, Ringwood City 0

MILO Boys East 14 A: Round 15: Glen Waverley 2, Eastern Lions 1, Kingston City 6, Sherbrooke Rangers 0, Bulleen 3, Nunawading City 0, Caulfield Utd 3, Riversdale Raiders 1, Richmond Bye

MILO Boys East 14 B: Round 12: Manningham 0, Melbourne Utd 2, Clayton 1, Springvale City 3, Glen Eira 1, Oakleigh 7, Southern Stars 8, Whitehorse 1, Bulleen 1, North Caulfield 3

MILO Boys East 14 C: Round 15: Berwick City, Stonnington City, Knox City 3, Glen Waverley 2, Nunawading City 2, Croydon City Arrows JSC 3, Mooroolbark 1, Brighton JSC 2, Beaumaris 0, Doncaster Rovers JSC 6

MILO Boys East 14 D: Round 1: Glen Eira 2, Ringwood City 4, Eastern Lions 3, Doncaster Rovers JSC 2, Ashburton 1, Manningham 2, Hampton 1, East Bentleigh 3, Chelsea 4, Boroondara 1

MILO Boys East 13 A: Round 15: Croydon City Arrows Bye, South Melbourne 2, Port Melbourne 0, Bulleen 3, Clayton 0, North Caulfield 4, Riversdale Raiders 2, Oakleigh 0, Doncaster Rovers 2

MILO Boys East 13 B: Round 15: Boroondara Bye, Kingston City 6, Sherbrooke Rangers 0, Eastern Lions 1, Monash City 2, Nunawading City 2, Manningham 1, Richmond 2, Ashburton 0

MILO Boys East 13 C: Round 15: Mooroolbark Bye, Glen Waverley 0, Richmond 2, Bye, Brandon Park, North Caulfield 2, Caulfield Utd 0, Springvale City 1, Ringwood City 2

MILO Boys East 13 D: Round 15: Boroondara Bye, Doncaster Rovers 3, Glen Waverley 0, Boroondara Lions 3, East Bentleigh 1, Croydon City Arrows 1, Glen Eira 0, North Caulfield 2, Ashburton 2

MILO Boys East 12 A: Round 12: Monash City Bye, Box Hill Inter 3, Knox City 0, South Melbourne 2, Whitehorse 0, Richmond 12, Glen Waverley 0, Bulleen 5, East Bentleigh 0

MILO Boys East 12 B: Round 15: Riversdale Raiders 4, Glen Waverley 2, Stonnington City Bye, Bulleen 2, Croydon City Arrows JSC 0, North Caulfield 1, Ringwood City 3, Oakleigh 6, Doncaster Rovers JSC 1

MILO Boys East 12 C: Round 15: Mooroolbark 6, Boroondara Lions 1, Eastern Lions Bye, Bulleen 1, Brandon Park 1, North Caulfield 12, Ashburton 0, Waverley Wanderers 0, Melbourne United 1

MILO Boys East 12 D: Round 12: Manningham 5, Riversdale Raiders 1, Clayton 3, Eastern Lions 0, Knox City 1, North Caulfield 1, Bye Bye, Doncaster Rovers JSC 2, Croydon City Arrows JSC 2

MILO Boys East 12 E: Round 15: Bye, Caulfield United, Bye, Croydon City Arrows JSC, Whitehorse 3, Frankston Strikers 0, Bentleigh Greens 5, Ringwood City 0, Northcote City 0, Richmond 5

MILO Boys East 11 Kangaroos Green: Round 15: Bye, Richmond, South Melbourne 5, Boroondara 0, Glen Waverley 1, Croydon City Arrows JSC 5, North Caulfield 0, Box Hill Inter 2, Oakleigh 0, Doncaster Rovers JSC 4

MILO Boys East 11 Kangaroos Purple: Round 12: Monash City 7, Ringwood City 0, Boroondara 0, Nunawading City 5, South Melbourne 5, Riversdale Raiders 0, Richmond 0, Stonnington City 2, Bulleen 4, Doncaster Rovers JSC 0

MILO Boys East 11 Joys Orange: Round 10: Bye, Bye, Clayton 3, East Bentleigh 0, Doncaster Rovers JSC 1, Knox Utd 0, Bulleen 7, Eastern Lions 0, Richmond 3, North Caulfield 2

MILO Boys East 11 Joys Blue: Round 12: East Bentleigh Bye, Ashburton 2, Kingston City 2, Nunawading City 1, Richmond 0, Caulfield Utd 6, Croydon City Arrows JSC 1, Bulleen 1, Manningham 0

MILO Boys East 11 Joys Red: Round 12: Richmond Bye, Ashburton 0, Melbourne Utd 6, Brandon Park 0, Knox City 4, Sherbrooke Rangers 3, Glen Eira 0, Doncaster Rovers 1, North Caulfield 0

MILO Boys East 11 Joys Yellow: Round 15: Mooroolbark 3, Riversdale Raiders 0, Monash City 5, Glen Waverley 0, Boroondara Lions 1, Port Melbourne JSC 1, Ringwood City 0, Glen Eira 1, Springvale City 6, Eastern Lions 0

MILO Boys N/W 16 B: Round 15: Manbyomg Greens 0, Kellor Wolves 1, Lalor Utd 7, Broadmeadows Utd 3, Sydenham Park 6, Watsonia Heights 1, Werribee City 7, Meadow Park 0, Altona City 3, Altona East 1

MILO Boys N/W 14 B: Round 15: Sunbury Utd Bye, Bundoora 1, Light Utd 2, Sydenham Park 0, North Sunshine Eagles 3, Gisborne 2, Sunshine Georgies 6, Essendon Royals 3, Altona East 6

MILO Boys N/W 14 C: Round 4: Watsonia Heights Bye, Essendon Royals 0, Flemington Eagles 2, Northcote City 2, Lalor Utd 1, Werribee City 1, Altona City 0

MILO Boys N/W 13 B: Round 12: Brunswick Zebras 8, North Coburg United 0, Heidelberg Utd 2, Laverton Park 2, Fawkner 7, Mill Park 0, North Sunshine Eagles 1, Epping City 2, Brunswick City 3, Hoppers Crossing JSC 0

MILO Boys N/W 13 C: Round 15: Keilor Wolves Bye, Brimbank City 4, Whittlesea Utd 1, Brunswick Zebras 5, Mill Park 0, Plenty Valley Lions 2, Melbourne Lions 0, Altona City 0, Westvale 4

MILO Boys North 16 A: Round 15: Moreland Utd 2, Clifton Hill Utd 4, Light Utd 1, North Coburg Utd 2, Epping City 2, Brunswick City 2, Eltham North 0, Brunswick Zebras 3, Heidelberg Stars 3, Bundoora 1

MILO Boys North 15 A: Round 15: Bye, Moreland Wolves, Preston Lions 6, Eltham North 0, Whittlesea Utd 2, Brunswick City 3, Whittlesea Stallions 4, Brunswick Zebras 0, Essendon Royals 3, Bundoora 2

MILO Boys North 15 B: Round 2: Brunswick Zebras 2, Northcote City 11, Yarraville 1, Brimbank City 2, Heidelberg Utd 4, Light Utd 4, Sunbury United 3, Carlton Youth FC 3, Plenty Valley Lions 0, Lalor 0

MILO Boys North 14 A: Round 15: North Coburg Utd Bye, Moreland Utd 2, Fawkner 3, Epping City 1, Eltham North 1, Hume Utd 0, Brunswick Zebras 1, Essendon Royals 0, Bundoora 1

MILO Boys North 13 A: Round 12: Light Utd 2, Bendigo Amateur Soccer League 1, Eltham North 0, Lalor Utd 3, Moreland City 0, Essendon Royals 1, Bundoora 2, Whittlesea Stallions 1, Diamond Valley Utd 6, Epping City 0

MILO Boys North 12 A: Round 10: Brunswick City 0, Epping City 0, Heidelberg Utd 2, Bundoora 4, Fawkner 1, Sunbury Utd 0, North City Lions JSC 0, Essendon Royals 2, North Coburg Utd, Hume Utd

MILO Boys North 12 B: Round 15: Fawkner 4, Moreland City 0, Lalor Utd 1, Preston Lions 4, Epping City 1, Eltham North 8, Whittlesea Stallions 4, Brunswick Zebras 0, Light Utd 0, Bendigo Amateur Soccer League 0

MILO Boys North 12 C: Round 12: Bye, Bye, Meadow Park 3, Fawkner 2, Whittlesea Stallions 3, Plenty Valley Lions 0, Bundoora 5, Eltham North 1, Clifton Hill Utd, Banyule City

MILO Boys North 12 D: Round 15: Moreland Utd 4, Watsonia Heights 0, Alphington 7, Moreland Wolves 1, Brunswick Zebras 2, Greenvale Utd 1, Hume Utd 1, Youth Utd 3, Essendon Royals 1, Broadmeadows Utd 2

MILO Boys North 11 Kangaroos Green: Round 15: North City Lions JSC Bye, Bundoora 6, Heidelberg Utd 0, Epping City 0, Brunswick City 3, Eltham North 0, Brunswick Zebras 5, Heidelberg Stars 0, Preston Lions 2

MILO Boys North 11 Kangaroos Purple: Round 12: Melbourne Knights Bye, Whittlesea Stallions 1, Light Utd 0, Moreland City 0, Essendon Royals 4, North City Lions JSC 0, Brunswick Zebras 0, Clifton Hill Utd 0, Fawkner 2

MILO Boys North 11 Joys Blue: Round 15: Moreland Utd 4, Light Utd North 0, Lalor Utd 0, North Coburg Utd 1, Epping City 1, Watsonia Heights 2, Brunswick City 0, Diamond Valley Utd 2, Essendon Royals 1, Keon Park 0

MILO Boys West 16 A: Round 12: Laverton Park 3, Sunbury Utd 1, Sunshine Heights 0, Western Eagles 2, Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 0, Kellor Park 3, St Albans 1, Albion Rovers 2, Gisborne WWSA

MILO Boys West 15 A: Round 15: Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 5, Hoppers Crossing JSC 1, Brimbank 4, St Albans 2, Avondale Heights 0, North Sunshine Eagles 3, Kellor Park 0, Sunshine Georgies 2, Altona Magic 7, Melton 2

MILO Boys West 14 A: Round 15: Altona City Bye, Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 7, Hoppers Crossing 2, Brimbank 1, St Albans 2, Albion Rovers 2, Green Gully 2, Kellor Park 5, Laverton Park 2

MILO Boys West 13 A: Round 15: Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 0, Sunshine Heights 2, Werribee City 1, Williamstown 0, Sydenham Park 0, Green Gully 3, Kellor Park 0, Sunshine Georgies 2, Western Eagles 2, Melbourne Knights 1

MILO Boys West 12 A: Round 15: Albion Rovers 14, Hoppers Crossing JSC 0, Brimbank 10, Sunshine Heights 0, Sydenham Park 0, Kellor Park 1, Melbourne Knights 0, Green Gully 0, Altona City 3, Werribee City 0

MILO Boys West 12 B: Round 3: Bye, Gisborne, Melton 0, Sunshine Georgies 2, Brimbank 2, Green Gully 1, Kellor Park 7, Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 0, Avondale Heights 5, St Albans 1

MILO Boys West 11 Kangaroos Green: Round 12: Bye, Bye, Green Gully 13, Flemington Eagles 0, Kellor Park 4, WWSA 0, Hoppers Crossing 0, Altona City 8, Gisborne 2, Albion Rovers 0

MILO Boys West 11 Joys Blue: Round 3: Brimbank Bye, Manbyomg Greens 2, Satellite City Utd 1, Laverton Park Bye, Kellor Park 5, Werribee City 0, Avondale Heights 1, Williamstown 0

MILO Boys West 11 Joys Red: Round 15: Sunshine Georgies Bye, Gisborne 0, Sunbury Utd 7, Bye, St Albans, Sydenham Park 0, Green Gully 10, Altona City 0, Bendigo Amateur Soccer League 1

MILO Girls Metro 18 Green: Round 3: Heidelberg United Bye, Sydenham Park 2, St Albans 0, Bye, Sandringham City, Brunswick Zebras 2, Bulleen 2, Whitehorse 0, Bundoora 19

MILO Girls Metro 18 Purple: Round 9: Bye, Endeavour Utd, Noble Park Bye, Croydon City Arrows JSC 2, Sherbrooke Rangers 0, Glen Eira 0, Berwick City 4, Langwarrin Mornington

MILO Girls Metro 15 A: Round 11: Ashburton Bye, Beaumaris 3, Westgate 4, Epping City 3, Richmond 0, Bendigo Amateur Soccer League 0, Glen Eira 1

MILO Girls Metro 15 B: Round 15: Berwick City Bye, Langwarrin 1, Rosebud 0, Boroondara Lions 1, Sandringham City 1, Baxter 0, Brighton JSC 0, Bye, Mornington

MILO Girls Metro 15 C: Round 15: Eastern Lions Bye, Sherbrooke Rangers 0, East Bentleigh 4, Mornington Bye, Brighton JSC 1, North Caulfield 1, Hampton Park Utd 1

Croydon City Arrows JSC 2

MILO Girls Metro 13 A: Round 15: Peninsula 0, Knox City 4, Berwick City 4, Croydon City Arrows JSC 0, Brighton JSC 0, Sandringham City 1, Baxter 5, Mornington 0, Beaumaris 5, Sherbrooke Rangers 2

MILO Girls Metro 13 B: Round 15: Doncaster Rovers JSC 4, Carrum Utd 0, Brunswick Zebras 0, Sunbury Utd 0, Richmond 1, Brighton JSC 0, Western Eagles 1, Nunawading City 2, Dandenong Thunder 0, Boroondara Lions 1

MILO Girls Metro 13 C: Round 15: Langwarrin 2, East Bentleigh 0, Caulfield Utd 4, Watsonia Heights 0, Altona City 1, Bundoora 0, Hoppers Crossing JSC 1, Beaumaris 1, Doncaster Rovers JSC 1, Brighton JSC 0

MILO Girls S/E 16 A: Round 15: Cranbourne Comets Bye, Chelsea 3, Phillip Island 0, Whitehorse 0, Casey Panthers 0, Langwarrin 3, Glen Waverley 1, Sherbrooke Rangers 2, Mooroolbark 0

MILO Girls S/E 16 B: Round 12: Knox City 12, Richmond 0, North Caulfield 12, Brighton JSC 0, Croydon City Arrows JSC 1, Boroondara 0, Seaford Utd 4, Berwick Kings 1, Dandenong City 1, Boroondara Lions 7

MILO Girls S/E 14 A: Round 15: Boroondara Bye, Whitehorse Bye, Doncaster Rovers JSC 2, Berwick City 6, Brighton JSC 0, Sandringham City 4, Richmond 3, Mornington 1

MILO Girls S/E 14 B: Round 15: Richmond Bye, Langwarrin Bye, Brighton JSC 3, North Caulfield 2, Ringwood City 0, Glen Eira 0, Seaford Utd 1, Mooroolbark 5

MILO Girls S/E 14 C: Round 12: Bye, Eastern Lions, Casey Panthers 4, North Caulfield 0, Ashburton 3, Boroondara 0, Endeavour Utd 2, Sandringham City 2, Diamond Valley Utd 0, Glen Waverley 0

MILO Girls S/E 12 A: Round 15: Glen Eira Bye, Berwick City 5, Richmond 1, Sandringham City 1, Brighton JSC 0, Boroondara Lions 1, North Caulfield 1, Croydon City Arrows JSC 0, Ashburton 2

MILO Girls S/E 12 B: Round 8: Baxter Bye, Glen Waverley 1, Boroondara 6, Glen Eira 3, Melbourne United 2, 0, Sherbrooke Rangers 1, Brighton JSC 0, Melbourne Utd 1, 0, Box Hill Inter 1

MILO Girls S/E 12 C: Round 15: Sandringham City Bye, Knox City 0, Carrum Utd 0, Mornington 1, Baxter 1, Port Melbourne JSC 0, North Caulfield 1, Beaumaris 2, Caulfield Utd 1

MILO Girls S/E 11: Round 11: Carrum Utd Bye, Sherbrooke Rangers 0, Croydon City Arrows JSC 0, Richmond 0, Boroondara Lions 1, Ashburton Bye, North Caulfield 0, Brighton JSC 3

MILO Girls N/W 16 A: Round 15: South Melbourne 10, Sunbury Utd 0, Sunshine Georgies 5, Whittlesea Stallions 2, Altona City 4, Bundoora 1, Gisborne 1, Epping City 3, Essendon Royals 1, North City Lions JSC 2

MILO Girls N/W 16 B: Round 13: Eltham North Bye, Kellor Park 1, Sandringham City 3, Melton 2, Williamstown 1, Albion Rovers 3, Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 1, Brimbank 0, Brunswick Zebras 4

MILO Girls N/W 14: Round 15: Ballarat Academy Of Soccer Bye, Gisborne 0, Bundoora 9, Meadow Park 1, Eltham North 2, Epping City 3, Brunswick City 1, Kellor Park 0, Brunswick Zebras 2

MILO Girls N/W 12: Round 4: Bye, Eltham North, Essendon Royals 4, Bendigo Amateur Soccer League 15, Brunswick Zebras 0, Alphington 1, Diamond Valley Utd 0, Brunswick City 1

MILO Boys S/E 16 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Knox City JSC	15	14	1	0	60	6	43
Bulleen JSC	15	11	2	2	61	16	35
South Melbourne JFC	15	11	1	3	60	21	34
Southern Stars JFC	15	10	2	3	29	14	32
South Eastern Piranhas	15	6	4	5	29	25	22
Bentleigh Greens JSC	15	3	5	7	15	44	14
Glen Waverley JSC	15	3	4	8	24	44	13
Doncaster Rovers JSC	15	3	3	9	20	53	12
Oakleigh JSC	15	1	1	13	18	45	4
Whitehorse	15	1	1	13	9	57	4

MILO Boys S/E 15 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Box Hill Inter JSC	14	10	1	3	52	23	31
South Melbourne JFC	13	7	5	1	25	13	26
Bulleen JSC	12	7	3	2	29	9	24
Kingston City JSC	13	6	5	3	23	16	20
Gippsland Soccer League	13	6	1	6	22	27	19
Noble Park JSC	14	4	3	7	23	36	15
Whitehorse	12	4	2	6	20	24	14
Doncaster Rovers JSC	13	1	5	7	17	42	8
Beaumaris SC	14	1	3	10	10	33	6

MILO Boys S/E 14 Super League



JUNIOR LEAGUES



Brighton JSC	15 5 2 8 22 27 17
Mornington SC	15 3 2 10 20 47 11
Hampton Park Utd	15 2 0 13 16 64 6
Seaford Utd	14 1 1 12 11 48 4

MILO Boys South 15 B	P W D L F A P T
Dandenong City JSC	15 14 1 0 112 19 43
Bentleigh Greens JSC	15 12 1 2 61 25 37
Endeavour United JSC	15 9 4 2 43 14 31
Baxter Soccer Club	15 7 0 8 35 35 21
Beaumaris SC	15 6 3 6 32 37 21
Langwarrin SC	15 6 2 7 31 28 20
Rosebud JSC	15 6 2 7 32 50 20
Berwick City JSC	15 6 0 9 36 48 18
Brighton JSC	15 1 1 13 15 79 4
Mornington A	15 0 2 13 15 77 2

MILO Boys South 14 A	P W D L F A P T
Springvale White Eagles	15 13 1 1 74 19 40
Mornington	15 13 0 2 81 15 39
Brighton	15 10 1 4 72 29 31
Sandringham City	15 10 0 5 60 27 30
Langwarrin	15 9 2 4 42 15 29
Berwick City	15 7 2 5 54 33 23
Lyndale Utd	15 4 0 11 41 63 12
Beaumaris	15 3 0 12 16 79 9
Hampton Park Utd	15 2 0 13 12 76 6
Baxter	15 1 0 14 11 105 3

MILO Boys South 14 B	P W D L F A P T
Dandenong City JSC	14 12 1 1 51 11 37
Frankston Pines JSC	13 11 0 2 75 8 33
Cranbourne Comets JSC	14 10 2 2 56 18 32
Brighton JSC	13 7 1 5 51 29 22
Mornington SC	13 5 1 7 29 31 16
Langwarrin SC	13 5 1 7 29 34 16
Peninsula JSC	13 5 0 8 31 40 15
Sandringham City JSC	13 2 0 11 19 69 6
Heatherton Utd	0 0 0 0
White Star Dandenong JSC	14 0 0 14 81 09 0

MILO Boys South 13 A	P W D L F A P T
Dandenong Thunder JSC	15 14 0 1 69 8 42
Bentleigh Greens JSC	15 11 1 3 38 14 34
Langwarrin SC	15 10 3 2 41 8 33
Berwick City JSC	15 10 0 5 53 11 30
Brighton JSC	15 8 1 5 47 19 28
Frankston Pines JSC	15 8 1 6 36 18 25
Doveyton JSC	15 4 3 8 29 41 15
Mornington SC	15 2 2 11 9 68 8
Hampton Park Utd	15 0 2 13 45 2 2
Endeavour Utd	15 0 1 14 49 1 1

MILO Boys South 13 B	P W D L F A P T
Lyndale Utd	15 13 2 0 83 8 41
Berwick City JSC	15 12 0 3 64 14 36
East Bentleigh JSC	15 11 2 2 64 14 35
Sandringham City JSC	15 10 2 3 65 18 32
Beaumaris SC	15 8 3 4 40 19 27
Brighton JSC	15 6 0 10 27 49 15
Carum Utd	15 4 0 11 15 65 12
Phillip Island JSC	15 2 2 11 21 66 8
Seaford Utd	15 2 2 11 9 56 8
Hampton Park Utd	15 1 1 13 9 88 4

MILO Boys South 13 C	P W D L F A P T
Beaumaris	14 11 1 2 44 21 34
Springvale White Eagles	13 9 0 4 40 28 27
Cranbourne Comets	13 7 4 2 40 17 25
Seaford Utd	13 8 1 4 41 21 25
Langwarrin	13 7 3 3 42 19 24
Baxter	13 4 1 8 11 25 13
Brighton	13 4 0 9 18 30 12
Sandringham City	13 3 1 10 10 47 10
Berwick City	14 1 1 12 8 46 4

MILO Boys South 12 A	P W D L F A P T
Berwick City JSC	15 12 2 1 52 10 38
Beaumaris SC	15 12 1 2 48 9 37
Dandenong City JSC	15 11 2 2 47 17 35
Sandringham City JSC	15 9 3 3 39 15 30
Peninsula JSC	15 8 4 3 27 9 28
Bentleigh Greens JSC	15 6 2 7 24 23 20
Mornington SC	15 4 1 10 21 36 13
Brighton JSC	15 3 1 11 11 28 10
Hampton Park Utd	15 1 0 14 5 57 3
Langwarrin SC	15 1 0 14 18 4 3

MILO Boys South 12 B	P W D L F A P T
Hampton	13 11 1 1 33 7 34
Beaumaris	13 7 3 3 24 14 24
Seaford Utd	13 7 1 5 18 21 22
Mornington	14 6 3 5 23 18 21
Cranbourne Comets	14 6 2 6 16 16 20
Brighton	13 5 6 16 17 17
Berwick City	14 3 5 16 17 14
Sandringham City	13 5 7 8 18 8
Chelsea	13 2 2 9 7 33 8
Langwarrin	0 0 0 0

MILO Boys South 12 C	P W D L F A P T
Rosebud JSC	11 11 0 0 41 0 33
Beaumaris SC	11 8 1 2 32 15 25
Baxter Soccer Club	11 7 2 2 27 13 23
Mornington SC	12 7 0 5 22 15 21
Langwarrin SC	12 4 4 15 23 16
Sandringham City JSC	12 2 2 8 13 36 8
Brighton JSC	12 1 1 10 7 32 4
Seaford Utd	11 1 0 10 11 34 3

MILO Boys South 12 D	P W D L F A P T
Harrisfield Hurricanes	12 11 0 1 92 10 33
Bentleigh Greens JSC	12 11 0 1 83 10 33
Keysborough JSC	12 7 1 4 72 26 22
Peninsula JSC	11 7 1 3 52 18 22
Hampton JSC	12 5 0 7 41 29 15
Lyndale Utd	12 3 0 9 12 97 9

Casey Panthers JSC	12 2 0 10 9 77 6
Endeavour Hills SC	11 0 0 11 0 93 0

MILO Boys South 11 Kangaroos Green	P W D L F A P T
Brighton	14 11 3 0 44 13 36
Beaumaris	13 8 4 1 48 10 28
Berwick City	13 8 3 2 36 14 27
Mornington	13 7 2 4 30 16 23
Dandenong City	14 6 2 6 25 19 20
Heatherton Utd	13 4 1 8 23 31 13
Sandringham City	14 2 6 6 11 24 12
Hampton	13 1 2 10 8 46 5
Cranbourne Comets	13 1 1 11 11 63 4

MILO Boys South 11 Kangaroos Purple	P W D L F A P T
Sandringham City JSC	13 11 1 1 78 6 34
Langwarrin SC	13 8 4 1 48 7 28
Noble Park JSC	13 7 4 2 41 8 25
Dandenong Thunder JSC	14 7 4 3 41 14 25
Seaford Utd	14 7 4 3 36 13 25
Springvale White Eagles	12 5 1 6 39 16 16
Peninsula JSC	12 2 1 10 7 61 7
Mornington SC	13 0 3 10 4 74 3
Rosebud JSC	13 0 2 11 4 99 2

MILO Boys South 11 Joys Blue	P W D L F A P T
Berwick City	13 12 1 0 73 7 37
Sandringham City	13 10 1 2 47 15 31
Brighton	14 9 3 2 32 14 30
Endeavour Utd	13 7 2 4 24 22 23
Beaumaris	13 6 1 7 19 27 16
Baxter	14 4 3 7 29 32 15
Doveyton	14 3 2 9 20 29 11
Dandenong City	13 3 1 9 9 43 10
Carum Utd	13 0 0 13 1 65 0

MILO Boys South 11 Joys Red	P W D L F A P T
Hampton Park Utd	15 13 2 0 59 12 41
Mornington	15 11 1 3 38 13 34
Brighton B	15 9 4 2 28 10 31
Hampton	15 9 1 5 28 17 28
Sandringham City	15 8 2 5 28 17 26
Keysborough	15 6 1 8 22 29 19
Langwarrin	14 4 1 9 32 13
Beaumaris	15 3 1 11 15 36 10
Brighton A	15 2 2 11 6 34 8
Berwick City	14 1 1 12 14 47 4

MILO Boys East 16 A	P W D L F A P T
Bulleen JSC	13 11 1 1 60 10 34
Riversdale Raiders	13 11 1 1 48 15 34
Nunawading City JSC	14 10 2 2 58 16 32
Manningham JSC	13 7 1 5 44 17 22
Glen Waverley JSC	14 7 0 7 39 21 21
East Bentleigh JSC	13 6 1 6 34 25 19
Doncaster Rovers JSC	13 2 1 10 10 49 7
Sherbrooke Rangers JSC	14 2 1 11 12 83 7
Ashburton JSC	13 0 0 13 9 68 0

MILO Boys East 16 B	P W D L F A P T
Richmond JSC	12 10 1 1 62 15 31
Boroondara Lions JSC	11 8 1 2 43 20 25
Boronia JSC	11 7 2 4 29 23 23
North Caulfield JSC	11 6 2 3 44 12 20
Eastern Lions	13 4 2 7 35 44 14
Mooolbark JSC	11 3 3 5 34 44 12
Manningham JSC	11 2 1 8 27 42 7
Glen Eira JSC	12 0 0 12 11 105 0

MILO Boys East 15 A	P W D L F A P T
Bulleen JSC	13 9 2 2 45 12 29
Boronia JSC	13 9 1 1 40 27 28
North Caulfield JSC	13 7 3 3 22 10 24
South Springvale JSC	14 6 3 5 22 19 21
South Melbourne JSC	13 5 4 2 17 19
Manningham JSC	13 5 1 7 24 20 16
Doncaster Rovers JSC	13 4 1 8 19 37 13
Knox City JSC	13 3 2 8 13 26 11
Richmond JSC	14 3 1 10 18 56 10
Sherbrooke Rangers JSC	0 0 0 0

MILO Boys East 15 B	P W D L F A P T
Eastern Lions	15 11 3 1 40 12 36
Brandon Park JSC	15 9 3 3 39 17 30
Nunawading City JSC	15 9 1 5 45 26 28
Croydon City Arrows JSC	15 9 1 5 30 23 28
Glen Waverley JSC	15 8 3 4 40 26 27
North Caulfield JSC	15 7 1 7 23 31 22
Westvale SC	15 4 4 7 15 19 16
Doncaster Rovers JSC	15 4 3 8 20 28 15
East Bentleigh JSC	15 3 2 10 17 41 11
Boronia JSC	15 0 1 14 9 56 1

MILO Boys East 15 C	P W D L F A P T
Boroondara Lions JSC	14 12 1 1 60 14 37
Port Melbourne JSC	13 9 2 2 52 16 29
Caulfield Utd	13 9 1 3 45 16 28
Ashburton JSC	13 8 3 2 33 14 27
Ringwood City JSC	13 6 1 6 28 23 19
Manningham JSC	14 6 0 8 32 32 18
Sherbrooke Rangers JSC	14 3 0 11 18 62 9
Richmond JSC	13 2 0 11 10 48 6
Mooolbark JSC	13 1 0 12 12 65 3

MILO Boys East 14 A	P W D L F A P T
Bulleen JSC	14 12 0 2 45 9 36
Nunawading City JSC	13 9 2 2 25 11 29
Kingston City JSC	13 9 1 3 37 16 26
Richmond JSC	13 6 4 3 27 16 22
Glen Waverley JSC	14 6 1 7 37 30 19
Eastern Lions	13 4 1 8 27 25 13
Riversdale Raiders	13 3 3 7 16 23 12
Caulfield Utd	14 3 0 11 7 70 9
Sherbrooke Rangers JSC	13 1 2 10 13 44 6

MILO Boys East 14 B	P W D L F A P T
Bulleen JSC	14 12 0 2 45 9 36
Nunawading City JSC	13 9 2 2 25 11 29
Kingston City JSC	13 9 1 3 37 16 26
Richmond JSC	13 6 4 3 27 16 22
Glen Waverley JSC	14 6 1 7 37 30 19
Eastern Lions	13 4 1 8 27 25 13
Riversdale Raiders	13 3 3 7 16 23 12
Caulfield Utd	14 3 0 11 7 70 9
Sherbrooke Rangers JSC	13 1 2 10 13 44 6

Southern Stars JFC	P W D L F A P T
Melbourne Utd	15 14 1 0 77 11 43
Bulleen JSC	15 9 2 4 39 24 29
Oakleigh JSC	15 9 2 4 35 20 29
Manningham JSC	15 9 1 5 44 23 28
North Caulfield JSC	15 8 0 7 32 23 24
Glen Eira JSC	15 6 4 5 30 19 22
Whitehorse	15 6 2 7 33 46 20
Springvale City JSC	15 3 2 10 21 64 11
Clayton JSC	15 3 1 11 18 43 10
Clayton JSC	15 0 1 14 11 67 1

MILO Boys East 14 C	P W D L F A P T
Doncaster Rovers JSC	15 12 1 2 60 16 37
Berwick City JSC	14 10 1 3 48 17 31
Croydon City Arrows JSC	15 9 2 4 45 27 29
Beaumaris SC	15 8 2 5 33 31 26
Knox City JSC	15 7 1 7 43 53 22
Nunawading City JSC	15 6 1 8 34 32 19
Mooolbark JSC	15 6 1 8 28 41 19
Glen Waverley JSC	15 3 4 8 26 40 13
Stonnington City JSC	14 3 1 10 24 45 10
Brighton JSC	15 2 2 11 18 57 8

MILO Boys East 14 D	P W D L F A P T
Chelsea JSC	15 12 1 2 71 12 37
Manningham JSC	15 12 0 3 78 12 36
Boronia JSC	15 11 0 4 67 12 33
Ashburton JSC	15 11 0 4 61 17 33
Hampton JSC	15 10 0 5 47 18 30
East Bentleigh JSC	15 7 1 7 41 32 22
Eastern Lions	15 4 1 10 18 68 13
Doncaster Rovers JSC	15 4 0 11 24 81 12
Ringwood City JSC	15 2 0 13 20 82 6
Glen Eira JSC	15 0 1 14 12 90 1

MILO Boys East 13 A	P W D L F A P T
North Caulfield	14 11 3 0 37 9 36
Doncaster Rovers	13 10 0 3 40 20 30
Bulleen	14 9 1 4 39 25 28
South Melbourne	13 7 2 4 26 17 23
Oakleigh	14 5 4 5 30 21 19
Croydon City Arrows	13 4 2 7 15 20 14
Riversdale Raiders	13 3 2 8 17 34 11
Clayton	13 2 0 11 11 37 6
Port Melbourne	13 1 2 10 14 46 5

MILO Boys East 13 B	P W D L F A P T
Kingston City JSC	13 10 3 0 38 14 33
Boronia JSC	13 8 3 2 37 12 27
Richmond JSC	13 7 3 3 26 15 24
Monash City JSC	14 7 1 6 37 20 22
Ashburton JSC	14 5 4 5 15 23 19
Manningham JSC	14 6 0 8 23 17 18
Eastern Lions	13 5 1 7 18 23 16
Nunawading City JSC	13 2 2 9 5 31 8
Sherbrooke Rangers JSC	13 1 1 11 4 48 4

MILO Boys East 13 C	P W D L F A P T
Glen Waverley JSC	12 8 1 3 32 12 25
Richmond JSC	12 6 5 1 19 6 23
Brandon Park JSC	12 7 2 3 27 17 23
Ringwood City JSC	11 7 1 3 16 11 22
North Caulfield JSC	11 5 2 4 18 16 17
Springvale City JSC	11 2 2 7 12 27 8
Mooolbark JSC	10 1 2 7 13 26 5
Caulfield Utd	11 1 1 9 11 33 4

MILO Boys East 13 D	P W D L F A P T
Doncaster Rovers	13 12 1 0 70 3 37
Boronia	13 8 1 4 30 23 25
Ashburton	13 7 3 3 43 15 24
Boroondara Lions	13 8 0 5 34 23 24
East Bentleigh	14 7 2 5 30 13 23
Croydon City Arrows	13 5 1 7 22 46 16
North Caulfield	14 4 3 7 19 33 15
Glen Waverley	14 3 1 10 15 42 10
Glen Eira	13 0 0 13 3 68 0

MILO Boys East 12 A	P W D L F A P T
Box Hill Inter JSC	13 13 0 0 57 9 39
Richmond JSC	14 9 1 4 70 13 28
Bulleen JSC	13 9 0 4 39 8 27
South Melbourne JSC	13 8 0 5 38 22 24
Monash City JSC	13 7 2 4 44 15 23
Whitehorse	14 7 0 7 28 24 21
Knox City JSC	14 4 1 9 20 40 15
East Bentleigh JSC	13 0 1 12 6 59 1
Glen Waverley JSC	13 0 1 12 41 16 1

MILO Boys East 12 B	P W D L F A P T
Oakleigh JSC	14 12 0 2 51 13 36
North Caulfield JSC	13 11 0 2 40 13 33
Ringwood City JSC	13 10 2 1 40 14 32
Doncaster Rovers JSC	13 6 3 4 34 20 21
Bulleen JSC	13 6 3 4 31 20 21
Riversdale Raiders	13 4 0 9 24 25 12
Stonnington City JSC	13 3 1 9 12 30 10
Croydon City Arrows JSC	14 3 1 10 20 39 10
Glen Waverley JSC	14 0 0 14 10 88 0

MILO Boys East 12 C	P W D L F A P T
Bulleen JSC	13 11 2 0 53 3 35
Melbourne United JSC	13 10 1 2 46 5 31
North Caulfield JSC	13 9 1 3 54 12 28
Brandon Park JSC	14 8 3 3 35 11 27
Waverley Wanderers JSC	14 8 1 5 40 16 25
Eastern Lions	13 5 1 7 43 22 16
Mooolbark JSC	13 3 1 9 25 58 10
Boroondara Lions JSC	14 1 0 13 11 71



JUNIOR LEAGUES



MILO Boys North 12 D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Greenvale Utd	15	11	2	5	7	6	35
Broadmeadows Utd	15	11	1	3	5	20	34
Moreland Utd	15	10	1	4	3	21	31
Essendon Royals JSC	15	8	5	2	4	11	29
Youth Utd	15	8	3	4	3	20	27
Hume Utd	15	5	3	7	2	32	18
Brunswick Zebras JSC	15	6	0	9	2	34	13
Watsonia Heights JSC	15	3	2	10	2	54	11
Moreland Wolves	15	3	1	11	2	53	10
Alphington	15	1	0	14	17	64	3

MILO Boys North 11 Kangaroos Green

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Brunswick Zebras JSC	13	10	3	0	31	6	33
Bundoora JSC	13	9	1	3	41	7	28
Preston Lions JSC	13	8	4	3	4	8	28
North City Lions JSC	13	8	2	3	19	15	26
Brunswick City JSC	13	7	2	4	31	14	23
Heidelberg Slans JSC	14	4	1	9	16	35	13
Epping City JSC	13	3	0	10	11	46	9
Heidelberg Utd	13	3	0	10	11	46	9
Eltham North JSC	14	0	0	14	18	0	0

MILO Boys North 11 Kangaroos Purple

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Melbourne Knights JSC	13	10	2	1	4	10	32
Whittlesea Stallions JSC	14	10	2	2	2	7	32
Essendon Royals JSC	13	9	3	1	4	8	30
Light Utd	13	7	3	3	24	7	24
Fawkner JSC	14	7	2	5	22	22	23
Moreland City JSC	13	5	0	8	8	24	15
North City Lions JSC	13	3	3	7	15	23	12
Brunswick Zebras JSC	13	0	2	11	5	40	2
Clifton Hill Utd	14	0	1	13	4	50	1

MILO Boys North 11 Jozeys Blue

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Moreland Utd	14	13	1	0	5	6	35
Diamond Valley Utd	15	11	2	2	3	6	35
Essendon Royals JSC	15	10	1	4	24	10	31
Keon Park SC	14	6	3	5	20	17	21
Watsonia Heights JSC	15	6	2	7	21	26	20
Light United North JSC	12	5	0	7	19	25	15
North Coburg Utd	13	4	2	7	9	15	14
Epping City SC	15	4	0	11	12	33	12
Lalor Utd	14	4	2	8	11	31	10
Brunswick City JSC	15	2	1	12	7	49	7

MILO Boys West 16 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Albion Rovers	14	13	0	1	30	13	39
Kellor Park	15	11	2	2	6	8	35
St Albans	15	11	1	3	6	24	34
Western Eagles	15	10	1	4	4	29	31
Ballarat Academy Of Soccer	14	6	3	5	20	21	21
Laverton Park	15	4	4	7	23	30	16
Sunbury Utd	15	5	1	9	31	60	16
WVSA	14	4	1	9	27	43	13
Gisborne	14	2	0	12	16	66	6
Sunshine Heights	15	0	1	14	5	97	1

MILO Boys West 15 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Sunshine Georgies JSC	15	12	3	0	6	13	39
North Sunshine Eagles JSC	15	10	3	2	4	15	33
Altona Magic JSC	15	8	6	1	5	16	30
Brimbank JSC	15	9	2	4	5	27	29
Kellor Park JSC	15	8	2	5	5	29	26
Ballarat Academy Of Soccer	15	8	2	5	3	28	26
Avondale Heights JSC	15	5	0	10	19	48	15
St Albans	15	3	0	12	28	57	9
Melton SC	15	3	0	12	37	82	9
Hoppers Crossing JSC	15	0	0	15	31	0	0

MILO Boys West 14 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Albion Rovers	14	9	2	3	36	13	29
Green Gully	13	9	2	3	36	14	29
Kellor Park	14	8	4	2	3	16	28
Ballarat Academy Of Soccer	14	8	3	3	36	17	27
Altona City	13	8	1	4	44	12	25
St Albans	13	3	2	8	10	32	11
Hoppers Crossing	13	3	1	9	29	42	10
Laverton Park	13	2	2	9	19	40	8
Brimbank	13	1	1	11	7	67	4

MILO Boys West 13 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Sunshine Heights	15	14	1	0	7	5	43
Sunshine Georgies	15	12	2	1	5	13	38
Ballarat Academy Of Soccer	15	9	1	5	30	20	28
Werribee City	15	7	2	6	18	24	23
Sydenham Park	15	7	1	7	28	21	22
Green Gully	15	7	0	8	26	22	21
Kellor Park	15	5	1	9	23	34	16
Western Eagles	15	1	0	14	10	70	3
Williamstown	15	1	0	14	5	72	3
Melbourne Knights	15	1	0	14	5	72	3

MILO Boys West 12 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Brimbank JSC	15	12	2	1	5	10	38
Altona City JSC	15	11	2	2	5	10	35
Albion Rovers JSC	15	11	0	4	7	16	33
Green Gully JSC	15	9	3	3	40	11	30
Melbourne Knights JSC	15	7	5	3	35	12	26
Werribee City JSC	15	8	1	6	36	21	25
Kellor Park JSC	15	4	3	8	23	26	15
Sydenham Park JSC	14	3	0	11	10	33	9
Hoppers Crossing JSC	14	1	0	13	4	91	3
Sunshine Heights JSC	15	0	0	15	21	0	0

MILO Boys West 12 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Sunshine Georgies JSC	13	12	1	0	4	7	37
Kellor Park JSC	14	10	0	4	41	10	30
Gisborne Junior Soccer Club	13	8	2	3	29	10	26
Ballarat Academy Of Soccer	13	6	2	5	29	20	20
St Albans	14	4	3	7	19	25	15
Melton SC	14	4	2	7	16	24	14
Avondale Heights JSC	13	4	0	9	16	30	12
Green Gully JSC	13	3	1	9	25	10	10
Brimbank JSC	14	3	1	10	10	46	10
Altona City JSC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

MILO Boys West 11 Kangaroos Green

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Altona City	12	9	1	2	5	8	28
Gisborne	11	9	0	2	2	8	27
Green Gully	12	8	1	3	5	8	25
Kellor Park	12	7	3	2	3	7	24
Albion Rovers	11	3	4	4	16	23	13
Hoppers Crossing	11	2	2	7	14	43	8
WVSA	12	2	1	9	18	45	7
Flemington Eagles	13	1	0	12	14	88	3

MILO Boys West 11 Jozeys Blue

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Avondale Heights JSC	11	10	0	1	4	9	30
Williamstown JSC	13	8	3	2	2	7	27
Laverton Park JSC	11	6	2	3	31	17	20
Kellor Park JSC	11	6	1	4	31	13	19
Maribyrnong Greens JSC	11	5	2	4	13	17	15
Satellite City Utd	12	3	0	9	12	42	9
Werribee City JSC	12	2	1	9	10	34	7
Brimbank JSC	11	1	1	9	1	33	4

MILO Boys West 11 Jozeys Red

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Green Gully	11	9	1	1	4	8	28
Bendigo Amateur Soccer	12	9	1	2	4	13	28
Sunbury Utd	11	8	1	2	3	6	25
Sunshine Georgies	11	5	4	2	3	9	19
Altona City	11	5	0	8	34	17	15
Sydenham Park	12	4	0	8	24	37	12
St Albans	11	2	8	10	33	5	5
Gisborne	11	0	1	10	2	97	1

MILO Girls Metro 18 Green

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Sandringham City JSC	11	11	0	0	7	2	33
Bundoora JSC	11	10	0	1	9	11	30
Sydenham Park JSC	12	8	0	4	41	27	24
St Albans JSC	12	4	3	5	25	28	15
Bulleen JSC	11	4	2	5	20	44	14
Brunswick Zebras JSC	11	3	2	6	33	17	11
Heidelberg United JSC	11	2	1	8	9	47	7
Whitehorse	13	0	0	13	31	0	0

MILO Girls Metro 18 Purple

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Noble Park JSC	13	12	0	1	8	3	36
Berwick City JSC	11	6	1	4	21	16	19
Sherbrooke Rangers JSC	12	6	1	5	18	15	19
Mornington SC	10	6	1	3	12	22	19
Langwarrin SC	10	4	1	5	17	20	13
Endeavour Utd	12	4	0	8	29	12	12
Croydon City Arrows JSC	11	3	2	6	13	21	11
Glen Eira JSC	11	1	0	10	5	46	3

MILO Girls Metro 15 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Ashburton JWSC	12	10	1	1	3	12	31
Richmond JSC	12	7	1	4	31	26	22
Epping City SC	12	6	3	3	35	29	21
Glen Eira JSC	12	6	0	6	31	33	18
Bendigo Amateur Soccer	12	5	1	6	31	24	17
Beaumaris SC	12	5	1	6	31	25	16
Westgate JSC	11	3	1	7	27	39	10
Watsonia Heights JSC	11	0	1	10	4	44	1

MILO Girls Metro 15 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Rosebud JSC	12	8	1	3	23	10	25
Baxter Soccer Club	12	5	2	23	14	20	20
Brighton JSC	11	6	2	3	18	20	20
Berwick City JSC	12	6	1	5	18	15	19
Boroondara Lions JFC	11	5	3	3	22	16	18
Langwarrin SC	11	5	1	5	23	17	16
Sandringham City JSC	12	2	2	8	9	33	8
Mornington SC	11	1	1	9	4	26	4

MILO Girls Metro 15 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Eastern Lions	11	10	0	1	41	6	30
East Bentleigh JSC	11	8	0	3	29	13	24
Sherbrooke Rangers JSC	12	7	1	4	30	19	22
Croydon City Arrows JSC	12	6	0	6	19	17	18
Brighton JSC	11	5	2	4	8	10	17
North Caulfield JSC	13	4	2	7	15	29	14
Hampton Park Utd	11	3	1	7	5	16	10
Mornington SC	11	0	11	6	43	0	

Movers and Shakers

George Stogiannou goes behind the scenes to unearth the truth about the sacking of former Kingston coach George Katsakis

George Katsakis and John Grezos used to enjoy playing the occasional game of backgammon together in the days before they formed a successful football association, as senior coach and Chief Executive Officer at Kingston City soccer club. After the events of the weekend of the 23rd of July, when Kingston became the tenth Premier League club to change coaches in season 2006, the two men are unlikely to meet for another friendly game of backgammon, at least not in the foreseeable future.

On the Friday night of that particular weekend, Kingston were hoping to halt an indifferent run of form in which the south-east suburban team had won just one game out of its last seven, a 2-0 win over bottom side Frankston Pines.

Instead, they crashed 4-0 to visitors Heidelberg United, one of their worst defeats under coach Katsakis, who had taken the team from the bottom of State Division 2 to the upper rungs of the Premier, in just two and a half seasons.

An anxious club president, Panos Margaritis immediately sought out club CEO, John Grezos after the match.

Both businessmen run companies which together with a third company Visy, are the major club sponsors. They were clearly anxious about the possibility that their team, assembled at great expense, would miss out on the taste of

"A lot of people forget that there's a President and a committee in place. Decisions should be made democratically. It shouldn't be about money," - George Katsakis

finals football.

"What are you going to do about it?" Margaritis asked the CEO.

A short time later, in the club social room, where players and members gather after each match for a drink and a feed, the only Kingston player to venture inside, was keeper David Zilic. In the corner, Grezos and Margaritis were meeting with coach Katsakis and discussing various options.

Katsakis and Grezos give different versions of what happened in the club social room that Friday night.

The way Katsakis tells it, he offered to fall on his sword, which he did but only briefly.

"For the good of the club and maybe for the results, I said to them [Grezos and Margaritis] 'I think I should be resigning.' So I resigned on the spot. Then 10-15 minutes later, John Grezos said to me, 'Look, I really don't think you should be resigning, there are only five games to go. We made a promise to you that you'd be here till the end of the season.' He then said to me, 'Shake my hand, look me in the eyes and tell me you'll be here till the end of the year.' 'Which I did. I reassessed and thought about it and agreed to stay till the end of the year. This happened Friday mid-night. Sunday, he [Grezos] rang me and basically said we need to terminate your services, you're no longer required as coach of the seniors. Over the phone."

Asked why he thought Grezos had changed his tune over the course of the weekend, Katsakis speculates, "He'd probably spoken to another coach. He didn't have another coach as yet or maybe they hadn't agreed on terms. Once they'd called it a deal, he [Grezos] then thought, now that

I've got a coach, I may as well go back on my word or tell [George] what I need to tell him."

Katsakis doesn't hide his disappointment with Grezos.

"When I shake somebody's hand, I don't need to sign a contract. For me to go away on Friday night thinking that I'm staying on, that I'll finish the season off here, and I'll give it my best, 100 percent, and then someone to turn around and do what they did to me, it's just not loyal."

Grezos did ring ex-Altona coach Ken Murphy around 4.00pm on Sunday to sound him out about taking over as senior coach at Kingston, just prior to ringing Katsakis. However he takes umbrage with Katsakis's comments about a lack of loyalty.

When asked for a response to Katsakis's statement about loyalty, Grezos replies,

"In answer to the comment, we've got to decide what loyalty means. My company [Landmark Homes] has financially supported the club in excess of \$120,000 this year. There's not too many sponsors in the Premier League with 120 grand. I've heard a lot of promises from George in the last 10 weeks. 'Things would change, things would get better, things will happen.' Unfortunately for George he hasn't delivered what he was supposed to do or what he believed he could do... Now what do you do when your club's losing the crowds due to the team losing points?"

"People have lost faith in George. Home fans were screaming from behind the fence saying he's making the wrong decisions. And all this was leading to a situation where George was getting more confused. The things he was trying, weren't working for him," Grezos says.

The truth can be elusive. People's memories of an event, and the circumstances surrounding it, can be very selective, especially when they are in a heightened emotional state. We may never know the whole truth of what went on that Friday night.

But what about the handshake? According to Grezos, coach Katsakis approached him shortly after their initial discussion, and said, "Let's forget what we said and shake hands. I've got a proposition to offer you."

The proposition centred around the club's financial position, and involved a suggestion for saving costs. Whether Grezos felt Katsakis was trying to deflect attention from on-field matters, or simply not getting the point, isn't clear, however he wasn't happy with the proposition and told Katsakis that he would need to consider it over the weekend. Besides, he felt it was an inappropriate time and place to be offering and accepting resignations. He then said, "Thank you very much George. Let's go and have a drink and shake hands." Which they did. "But that was it on the night," adds Grezos.

Katsakis claims that he'd been feeling under pressure from Grezos to leave as early as round 12 when Kingston were in second spot. He also believes that Grezos made the decision to sack him on his own. "I know it wasn't a committee decision. Apparently he made the decision on his own and I've got a letter to confirm that. It's a letter of termination giving him the authority to do that. I received the letter on Monday lunch time, that I was formally sacked."

"A lot of people forget that there's a President and a committee in place. Decisions should be made democratically. It shouldn't be about money," says Katsakis.

Again Grezos goes on the front foot to counter such claims by saying that the committee urged him to get rid of the

Former Kingston coach George Katsakis



coach, as early as eight weeks ago. And instead of putting Katsakis under pressure, he urged the committee to keep quiet and support the coach.

"If I wasn't there and it was left up to the rest of the committee, George would have been gone eight weeks ago. There is a document signed by 13-14 committee members who held an extraordinary meeting in my office eight weeks ago,

"In my opinion, we've got to be responsible for our actions. Any coach has got to make sure he maintains a happy squad. If players are not happy, not getting games or whatever, you're not gonna keep these players." - John Grezos

and they said to me, 'Get rid of him now because we're not going to make the finals.'

Because of my influence with the team and members, I told them to give George a chance, to find a way to work. And of course after eight weeks, instead of going forward, we're going backwards. They said to me, 'Wake up Grezos, what are you doing?' Then I had to make a decision."

However, when it came to the actual decision to sack the coach, Grezos only informed his committee after he had called Katsakis to tell him he was no longer required. That Sunday evening, Grezos addressed a hastily convened meeting of 16 committee members and explained his recommendation and what he'd told George. According to Grezos, he also asked for their support and "16 out of the 16 members, supported the idea that we need a change."

When asked if he informed the committee on the night who the new coach would be, Grezos replied, "They asked me what would be the alternative. I said, the alternative is we need to discuss the position with another coach, who I had a discussion on the phone with. Do you have any objection to that? The answer was no. They actually said, 'We don't have much choice. There's not many coaches who'll take the team in the last five games.'"

Despite the claims and counter claims of both men, the undeniable fact at the heart of the matter is Kingston's slump in form after such a promising start to their inaugural Premier League season.

Both men agree that the injury list is a major factor. Katsakis reels off a list of names, "Tolios, Johnny Pappas, Dimitriaras, Latinopoulos, Xiaobin. I could keep going."

But according to both men there were other factors as well, and again they point the finger at each other.

According to Katsakis, Grezos, in his role as Football Operations Manager, was an unsettling influence on team unity. "In terms of soccer, it was a case of not seeing eye to eye... I was told to release players I didn't want to release. I was told to play players I didn't want to play... He'd have his belief and I'd have mine, but at the end of the day, the decision was to be mine. But no doubt it brought a lot of unsettlement within the team."

Katsakis believes that another unsettling influence arose because five or six players are associated with Grezos outside the club through their work with Grezos's building company, Landmark Homes. "You know what it's like at a lunch time, you'll sit there, you'll speak to people, you're in the same environment, you'll talk about soccer, you'll touch on the coaching, on the players. When this happens you know it's going to unsettle the change room... because John's told me this, George's told me that and we started to create a bit of havoc and uncertainty as to who does what and when."

Grezos's response to this claim, shows his skill at turning defense into attack. He explains that what Katsakis overlooks in his criticism, is the important role his company played in persuading many of these "name" players to a small, unproven club such as Kingston. According to Grezos, the successful negotiations were largely due to the fact that a number of these players had strong family connections

with the building industry and they were able to enter into sub-contract arrangements with Landmark. He's talking about Curcija, Dilorio, Kiratzoglou and Spiteri. Landmark for example, now supports a building product developed by Curcija's father.

As for the so called work-place discussions on team issues, Grezos explains, "The only two players that work with me now (in the office) are Joe Spiteri and young Nick, who was injured in the Richmond game. We haven't got time to scratch our bottoms to be honest with you. We've got so much work happening. But nevertheless, we love the sport and might discuss a few things, but that should have no effect on the games." He dismisses such claims by Katsakis as "a poor excuse."

Grezos now has the bit between his teeth, and goes on the attack with his own opinions as to Kingston's slump in form. "In my opinion, we've got to be responsible for our actions. Any coach has got to make sure he maintains a happy squad. If players are not happy, not getting games or whatever, you're not gonna keep these players." Grezos is referring to the squad players, and the lack of depth on the bench.

"Why did we have to lose Papadopoulos? Why did we have to lose Zoric? What happened to all these players? Maybe we should ask the question, why didn't a lot of these players want to stay with George... I guarantee you, if the transfer was still open today, there's a possibility we could've lost Curcija, Dilorio, I dunno."

If Grezos is right, and Katsakis did have trouble keeping his whole squad happy, especially after targeting and recruiting such a high number of high profile players to the club, then it's tempting to think of this whole episode as a cautionary tale of hubris.

And if this was such a tale, which role did Katsakis play? Was he Daedalus or Icarus... From his public statements, it would seem he was Daedalus, the voice of caution and moderation, warning about trying to fly too high too soon... urging the middle course.

"I think maybe they hurried the process, by not trying to consolidate. To try and do a treble or three in a row. To me that was the wrong approach. Something that I spoke to Grezos earlier in the season. I said to him, 'I feel we're going about it in the wrong way. But at the end of the day, you pay the money and if that's what you want. You want success instantly, we'll give it our best shot, and I thought we were doing that.'"

Privately however Katsakis, may have been fuelled by his own success coaching Kingston in the State Leagues, and looking for ultimate glory in the Premier at the end of the year. If it's true, as Grezos claims, that Katsakis's immediate response on the phone to Grezos sacking him, were words to the effect, "What you're trying to do Grezos, is you want to resign me from my position and appoint another coach to take the glory," then Katsakis certainly qualifies for the Icarus role.

Grezos too is still hoping. "I hope things work with us now. I hope the boys get the spirit back. If they get the spirit back, and we can win these games, we'll be happy, but I'll also be very much disappointed for George. Because I was really looking forward to winning this Championship with George, to hold the Premier League Cup, after doing three years on the road together. I have a lot of feelings for George. He'll never stop being my friend, but in business you've got to make the commercial decision and today's soccer is a business."

Who knows, perhaps in years to come, when this episode is consigned to the dusty archives of history, the two former associates may find themselves sitting once again at the same table over a backgammon board, sipping their Greek coffees as they did in the years before their Kingston association. You can imagine what sort of game it would be. A friendly but competitive game, with both men enthusiastically slapping their pieces on the board. Perhaps, even at the end of the game, when the winner is decided and they reach over the table to shake hands, they'll remember back to that Friday night at the Grange reserve, and they'll still keep their smiles in place.

mailbag@goalweekly.com

GOAL! WEEKLY MAILBAG

Dear Goal! Weekly,

The original game between Diamond valley and Waverley was called off due to ground conditions. Despite pleas to the FFV to have an early inspection and avoid inconvenience to all parties the clubs had to hang around until 2'o clock for the Senior referee to arrive and make a decision. Black mark to the FFV!!

Saturday 12th August was set down for the "catch Up" round. Normally, if neither club is in contention for top spot or runner-up in the senior league, the reserve game is not played and a match is declared a draw.

Both clubs asked the Federation if the reserve game was to be played, both were told "yes" it must be played. The teams gathered for the game only to find that no referee had been assigned to the game. This is an insult to the clubs and a public apology should be made.

If the clubs are, in the opinion of the ruling body, out of line they cop one of a myriad of fines that the FFV deem up. But if the ruling body, in this case FFV or the referee's appointment panel, stuff up, what penalty is there?

It appears that there is none! Mr Pignata and his staff should be reminded of one stark fact...they are employees of the Federation. The Federation comprises the clubs and therefore they are responsible to the clubs!!

The clubs by the way of affiliation fees, registration fees and of course, fines, provide the finance to pay their wages and the clubs are entitled to a much better service and consideration than they are getting at present.

To demand that clubs play a game of no significance and then to fail to send an official to control the game, is to say the least outrageous!

Your explanation, please Mr. Pignata?

Gordon Kirkwood

Dear Goal! Weekly,

A few weeks ago GW Questionnaire, question 19 asked readers which internet sites they visited. I would like to draw their attention to a website that deals exclusively with Australian football and has a large section on Victorian football. It is an archive, so it's more like a reference book than a newspaper, but is updated frequently, especially during the playing season.

The website is ozfootball <ozfootball.net>

I think it's worth a look. Maybe some of GW's readers who are part of a football playing family going back generations can help fill in some of the gaps in the records,

Regards,

John Punshon

Dear Goal! Weekly,

I am avid Melbourne Victory fan I have been to every game they have played in Melbourne including last year's pre-season cup games.

On Friday I made the trip to Epping Stadium as I beleive I should support the team no matter where they play. However as I was making the odyssey to middle of no where I asked myself why on earth wasn't the game played somewhere like Bob Jane Stadium?

A nice central location that would have attracted alot more people that the thousand or so that were at Epping. Perhaps there are good reasons but I just hope it wasn't done in a bid to stay as far away from the old NSL as possible.

Regards,

Laz, Caulfield

Monday 14 August

BAYSIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE



► Premier League

Hampton Park United moves within one point of top spot without needing to kick a ball. Western Port Wanderers may be feeling more pressure at this point than at any other time during the season. With the current form of the teams you could almost say that Hampton Park United is now a favourite to snatch a second league title. With only three rounds remaining all eyes will be focused on these two teams. However it is interesting to note that if both do slip up then we could have the likes of Bayswater, Croydon or Boronia pinching the title themselves. Unlike but not impossible.

What a brilliant season it has been so far. Hampton Park United gained three points via a walkover against the Pines Condors. Croydon Ranges v Boronia Knights was postponed due to water logged pitch. Boronia now has two catch up games that could put them back into contention.

Western Port Wanderers has for the second straight game lost at home when Rosebud recent good run of form continued with a 2 - 1 win. Western Port Wanderers once seven point lead has crumbled to now be only one point on top. Will Western Port's bad patch come to an end this weekend?

Bayswater Strikers are making a big impact in the final rounds as they defeated Peninsula 5 - 0 at home to now move into third position. Peninsula still remains above the relegation zone with six wins. It can be considered a successful season for the promoted Peninsula.

Mt Lilydale did well to record a 2 - 2 draw at home to Knox City. Mt Lilydale may have needed the three points but still for a team in its first season they have impressed many.

► Premier Reserves

Leaders Croydon Ranges did not play as their game against second placed Boronia Colts failed to get underway because of a water logged pitch. Croydon still leads the way nine points clear. In other results Bayswater and Peninsula recorded a 4 - 4 draw. Last seasons champions Knox City defeated Mt Lilydale 3 - 1 and finally Western Port and Rosebud drew 3 - 3.

► Division 1

Newly crowned division 1 champions Langwarrin undefeated streak came to undignified end when they were thrashed by Cerberus 7 - 3. This result doubled the team's goals against in just one match. Cerberus moved up to fourth placed with their fifth win of the season.

Monash Peninsula moved within two points of second placed Brighton Old Boys when they defeated Cuscatlan 6 - 0. Brighton Old Boys had the weekend off due to the bye.

Last placed Boronia Cavaliers recorded an upset win over Frankston Outlaws, which places Boronia only one point away from the bottom.

Baxter Eagles dropped a place to fifth even though they defeated Mornington Power 2 - 0 no thanks to Cerberus shock result that now has them above Baxter by goal difference.

► Women's Premier League

League champions Hampton Park United only had nine players on the day but was able to keep their undefeated record in tact, but just, as they drew with Cuscatlan 2 - 2.

Frankston Pines moved into second place with a 3 - 0 win over Frankston Fillies and finally Rosebud B won in their very first match when they defeated Rosebud A!

► Division 2

Parkmore will only need to get a win over last place Endeavour Sporting to ensure the clubs first league title in the Bayside League. Parkmore got the better of Boronia Barons with a two goal away win.

Second placed Cranbourne maintains a three point lead over Chelsea Old Boys with both teams in fine form over the weekend. Cranbourne defeated A.C. Milangy 4 - 1 whilst Chelsea defeated Endeavour Sporting 6 - 3.

Baxter Falcons did something they have not done since round eight and that is win! Baxter recorded only their third win of the season with a fine 4 - 2 result against Mornington Glory.

► Division 3

Surprisingly, after winning the championship in round 11, Phillip Island failed to win any for the final last four rounds. But the result of a 4 - 2 lost to Rosebud Dinosaurs was very significant as that place Rosebud second in the final standings.

Seaford United was in the box seat to finish second but was not up to the task of stopping per-

Western Port is now feeling the pressure coming up to finals



haps the best team of the second half of the season, and local rivals, the Frankston Pines. The Pines won 3 - 1.

And finally in another local derby Croydon Ranges Old Boys has the title of finishing in the lowest place possible by ending up last in the

Division 3 with only nine points. That was not helped with a 2 - 1 lost to Montrose B.

Men's Cup Draw : Fixtures To Be Played September 3rd

► Winning Teams Advance to the Sands Hotel Challenge Cup Quarter Finals

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Seaford United Division 3	v	Monash Peninsula Division 1
Bayswater Strikers A Premier League	v	Western Port Wanderers A Premier League
Bayswater Strikers B Premier Reserves	v	Hampton Park United Premier League
Western Port Wanderers B	v	Phillip Island

Cuscatlan	v	Rosebud A
Rosebud B	v	Frankston Pines
Hampton Park United	v	Frankston Fillies

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12/24

7/18

HOWZAT...(AGAIN)!!

Another wicket has fallen in State League Division One. George Karkaletsas is no longer the coach of Brunswick City - who has not troubled the scorer for the last 2 months. There were strong rumours circulating that an ex-VPL Coach, whose former team wore the colours of red and white, would get the Brunswick gig, however, this appointment did not eventuate.

Instead, Brunswick City has opted for an "Internal Solution" as their new coach. What does that mean?

Your guess is as good as mine!

BOO PLAYS FROGGER

I ventured back down to Kevin Bartlett Reserve last Friday night to watch the Richmond versus Oakleigh match.

Oakleigh, having secured the Minor Premiership, was at full strength, and was 10 minutes away from a happy ending - only to have to share the points after a James Baskerville pile driver hit the target. Prior to the match, I caught up with Boo, and we discussed the dangers of balls being kicked on to the freeway, and how he risks life and limb to retrieve them.

Forget Murphy's Law, as he is too busy running the Kingston Boys into the ground - Katsa's Law was in place that night, and sure enough, a ball was kicked on to the South Eastern Freeway.

Boo, dressed in black pleats and tie, climbed the fence and ran out on to the South Eastern Freeway to retrieve the yellow Nike match ball. Surely somebody from Nike can take pity on Boo and supply some additional balls, so as he does not have to risk his life for the sake of a match ball!

Speaking of Oakleigh, they have won the Vodafone Cup Minor Premiership by a Katsa Mile!

As I have written before, I am against the Finals system in the VPL, as the team on top of the ladder after 26 home and away games, deserves to be named the champion.

Oakleigh now has to back up to play finals football, where one mistake by either a player, referee or linesman, sorry gents in black, assistant, may cost them the right to be crowned champions, even though they may have finished 15 points clear of the rest of the pack after 26 rounds.

FFV, rethink is required on this one.

Reward consistency and not a team who have an ordinary season, scrape into the top 6 and then hit a purple patch during the finals, win 2-3 games, and are then named the championship team.

GET WELL SOON BILLY

The South Melbourne versus Oakleigh match at Bob Jane Stadium last week was certainly a fiery affair.

Antun Kovacic was shown a red card after a tackle on Bill Natsioulas and a all in player dust up took place straight after the match involving players, coaches and support staff from both sides.

Unfortunately, Bill's injury was such that he required surgery.

Bill, get well soon mate, and we all hope to see you soon back on the playing field.

I have a long association with red cards as I have received my fair share of them over the years.

However, the one red card that stands out is the one that I received some 20 years ago, playing on the tiny pitch at Como Park.

There was no official referee and the home team



Minor Premiers: According to Katsa regardless of what happens in the Finals Play-Offs the Oakleigh Cannons are the true Champions after a stellar season.

appointed one of their officials to be the man in black for the match.

After one of my renowned classic, clumsy, mistimed tackles, I was called over by the referee who pulled out of his top pocket, what he believed to be a yellow card.

It was in fact, a packet of Benson and Hedges Gold.

When I laughed at him and protested by innocence, he then showed me a red card, which was a packet of Marlboro Red.

THE LONELY GUYS

There is a strong demand in Victorian soccer for cardboard cut-outs of spectators, to be used for the many games that are going to be played behind closed doors.

Seems that players are getting quite lonely playing in front of empty terraces and these cut-outs may make them feel that the stadium actually has some spectators there.

The latest limited, restricted, spectator match was the Kingston versus Preston clash.

Unfortunately, the FFV has no real option but to limit the chances of crowd violence by either playing the game with no spectators, or not allowing visiting fans to attend.

Clubs must start taking responsibility for fans that resort to violence at matches.

These people should be weeded out and not allowed to attend any further matches involving their teams.

Soccer in Victoria should be thriving after the Socceroos' World Cup success, however, the recent spate of violence will deter parents from taking their children to certain matches. The media beat up of some off field incidents, only gives our great game a bad name.

Until next week...

This is Katsa, but not as you've known him, and when the Fat Lady sings, I hope that your team is the winner!

WIN YOURSELF A COPY

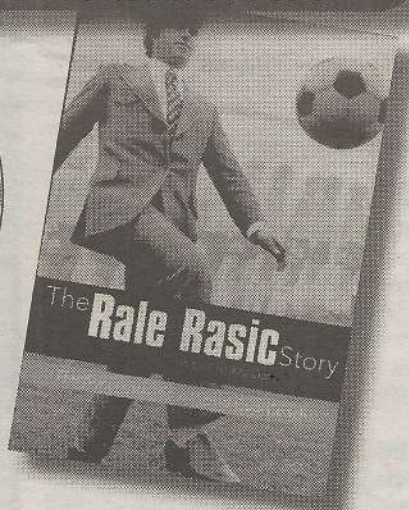
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The Rale Rasic Story
Author: Ray Gatt
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RRP: \$24.95

Synopsis

Rale reveals the problems of the game in this country and has many stories to tell from his tenure as Socceroos boss, from his many clashes with Sir Arthur George and the controversial decisions he made regarding Socceroo captiancy to his unexpected friendship with Gough Witlam

Congratulation to Clement from Caulfield on winning the last reader competition. Clement receives a copy of *The World Game Down Under* for his troubles.



Thanks to our good friends at Melbourne Sports Books, *Goal! Weekly* readers have a chance to win themselves a copy of Ray Gatt's "The Rale Rasic Story". First correct entry sent to competition@goalweekly.com wins!

Q. How many Melbourne Victory players will be representing Australia against Kuwait later this week?

- a. Four
- b. Three
- c. None

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Monday 14 August

FOOTBALL FOCUS... with Anthony Pelikan

Name: Anthony Pelikan
Club: Oakleigh Cannons
Position: Midfield
Age: 24
Height: 179cm
Weight: 77kg

Previous clubs: Melbourne Knights, Dinamo Zagreb, Carlton (NSL), Hajduk Split, Chelsea

Outfield player you most enjoy watching in the VPL?
 My Cannons team-mate Juan Nilo

In the world? Juventus' Pavel Nedved

Hardest keeper and team to score against? Every next opponent I have.

Occupation?
 I'm between jobs at the moment

Craziest team mate of all time? George Goutzioulis and Nick Sabljak when drunk.

Most influential coach of all time? Stuart Munro, Ian Dobson and Eddie Krncevic

Most memorable match as a player?
 My first and last match for the Melbourne Knights

As a fan? Dinamo Zagreb v Partisan Belgrade... 5 zip to Dinamo !!!

Where were you when Australia drew 2-2 with Iran? Have no idea

And when Australia qualified for the World Cup against Uruguay? At home

Did you make the trip to Germany for the World Cup? No

Representative honours? Australian U/23, Victorian Seniors and Junior representative

Most memorable goal you've scored?
 Playing for Melbourne Knights versus Adelaide City I scored the winner 20 metres

Anthony (middle) celebrates with team-mates Jim Drossos (left) and Felix Rosman (right)



out and we won 4:3

Worst injury: Torn hamstring with a 14.5cm tear and ostietis pubis

Funniest moment in football? Playing against Parramatta Alex Kiratzoglou was chasing an opponent and fell face first into the ground

Record number of juggles in single attempt? 1000

Steak, chicken parma or seafood? Seafood

Chips, veggies or salad? Salad

Pizza or souvlaki? Pizza

Favourite drink, non alcoholic and alcoholic? Creamy Soda and I don't drink alcohol

Favourite nightspot? Wheelers Hill pub

Favourite holiday destination? Anywhere on the coast of Croatia

Kitchen whiz or home handyman? Neither

What's in the CD player right now? Skoro Milo Moja

Dream date? My girlfriend

First team-mate you'd invite to a party, and why? Sam Poutakidis is a crack up when he's mimicking certain people

On the end of season trip, the last player to shout drinks will be... Sam Poutakidis or Scott Webster (still owes me \$40) from 3 months ago!!

Match day superstitions or rituals? None

Typical matchday meal? Plain pasta

Favorite sporting team when growing up? St Kilda Saints

What are your strengths? Vision and skill

What are your weaknesses? Heading and tackling

Ten pin bowling or skydiving? Not interested in either

Toughest opponent? Next opponent

Select a player that you play most like? None, no one is that bad.

Which team do you select when playing soccer on a computer game? Barcelona

What is the last soccer shirt you bought? Croatian national top in the 1998 World Cup

Funniest rumour you have heard about



yourself? Too many to write down

Childhood soccer idol? Former Croatian International Boban

Favorite former Socceroo? None

Favourite Current Socceroo? Mark Viduka

What song or movie to do you get inspiration from? Séabiscuit and the Wanderers after the last fight scene with the Ducky Boys.

Do you watch Footballers Wives? When I was living in Croatia

Best away ground you like to visit? Knights Stadium

If I didn't play football I'd play... AFL

What fictional character would you most like to be; why? Superman because I wouldn't mind the X-ray vision

Hollywood is making a movie about your career. Who would you select to play you in a movie? Johnny Depp, he's a dude

Any other bits of Anthony Pelikan trivia you want us to reveal? People often think I'm arrogant but I'm merely straight forward and honest.

Thanks Anthony and good luck in the Vodafone Cup Final Series.

Photos by John Punshon



Anthony breaks through the Preston defence earlier this year.

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